

# Graduate Student Dies After Fall From E19 Roof

By John A. Hawkinson  
NEWS EDITOR

Han D. Nguyen G was found Tuesday morning in the parking lot of Building E19, apparently having jumped from the roof of the building. Nguyen, age 25, was a third-year PhD student in marketing at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

“We deeply mourn the loss of this member of our community, and our hearts go out to his friends and family,” said Vice Chancellor and Dean for Graduate Education Steven R. Lerman.

MIT President Susan J. Hockfield called Nguyen’s death “an unspeakable tragedy.”

Nguyen and his family lived in Bellevue, Wash., and he graduated from Stanford University in 2006 with a bachelors in Economics and a masters in Psychology.

Nguyen worked in the MIT lab-

Nguyen, Page 16



FACEBOOK

Han D. Nguyen G

# Deval Patrick to Speak at Commencement

By Daniela Cako  
STAFF REPORTER

MIT’s 143rd Commencement exercises will take place this morning on Killian Court where more than 2,200 graduating students will receive about 2,600 degrees.

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick will deliver the Commencement address. Patrick was chosen to be this year’s speaker because of his leadership in clean energy policy. As governor, he is also an ex-officio member of the MIT Corporation.

In addition to Patrick, MIT Corporation Chairman Dana Mead will open the ceremonies, Institute Chaplain Robert M. Randolph will deliver the Invocation, and President Susan J. Hockfield will address the graduates. Outgoing Graduate Student Council President Oaz Nir and 2009 Senior Class President Vivian Tang will also speak.

Commencement, Page 18



WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH

Nitish Nair G, PhD candidate for the Department of Chemical Engineering, receives his doctoral hood from department head Klavs F. Jensen at the Johnson Athletic Center midday Thursday.

# Final Blue Ribbon Report Removes Some Unpalatable Recommendations

By Nick Bushak and Michael McGraw-Herdeg  
STAFF REPORTERS

The final report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining to MIT, dated May 11, 2009, recommends that the existing House Dining pro-

gram be dismantled and replaced with a declining-balance program. But in the report, the committee says it does not recommend a mandatory meal plan for all students, charging students in dining hall dorms an “opt out fee” where they would pay to eat

nothing, or turning the MacGregor Hall convenience store into a dining hall.

The report is available online at [The Tech’s website at http://tech.mit.edu](http://tech.mit.edu).

Dining, Page 17

# ATO Receives Housing License; Alcohol, Roof Access Restricted

By Pearle Lipinski and Michael McGraw-Herdeg  
STAFF REPORTERS

Members of the Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) fraternity can soon come home. Yesterday afternoon, the Cambridge License Commission unanimously approved them for a long-sought housing license.

The license comes with several

conditions attached. Among those: ATO must continue to follow rules it has set for itself, which largely bar alcohol until February 2010; that students have no access to or use of the roof; that there will be monthly inspections by their Alumni Board and by MIT; and that the CLC will

ATO, Page 13

# Plaque Shows Off Alum Smoot’s Contribution to Measurement

By Ana Lyons

Fifty years and seven months after the colorful markings first appeared across the 2164.8 foot (or 364.4 Smoot) span of the Harvard bridge’s sidewalks, a new plaque “In Commemoration of the 50th Year of

Smoot, Page 13

# Sec. of Energy Chu Pushes For Greater Technology Research

By Joyce Kwan  
STAFF REPORTER

U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu urged the need to pursue energy research in a spirit akin to that of the seminal AT&T Bell Laboratories in his address last month at MIT as part of the Karl Taylor Compton lecture series.

Chu began the talk by providing a bleak context, highlighting the rise in sea level, air temperature, and natural deforestation. Yet Chu did not appear defeated. “Is there a reason for hope? I think there is,” he said, as technological advances in the

Chu, Page 18

## Hackers Leave Lunar Lander on Dome

A scale model of the Apollo Lunar Module that carried astronauts to the surface of the moon appeared on the surface of the Great Dome in the early morning of Sunday, May 17. (How early? Just before sunrise, hackers were visible walking on the dome.)

After Facilities staff removed the lander, hackers bequeathed it to the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics as a prop for events celebrating the upcoming 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing, said David M. Barber, MIT’s hack-removal czar.

The donation came after Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Jr. ScD ’63 saw the hack and mentioned to the department that he liked it, Barber said.

Barber said he didn’t know of any other hacks that had ever been



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

given to an MIT department. Many are donated to the MIT Museum.

Aldrin will appear at Symphony Hall on June 11 in a concert where the Boston Pops will perform Gustav Holst’s “The Planets.”

The lander is the first hack to appear on the top of the Great Dome since November 2006. It was removed midday Tuesday, May 19, two days after it appeared.

—Michael McGraw-Herdeg

### OPINION

Failure of the student engagement task force: why Hockfield should intervene

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### ARTS

Mind and Hand at Work: Matthew B. Crawford’s new book reviewed

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## In Short

¶ **Jean Cui ’09** (pronounced “TSWAY”) won on *Jeopardy!* twice, on April 30 and May 1, but lost on May 18, for combined winnings of \$16,200.

¶ **Finally, no metal detectors at Commencement!** For the first time since 9/11, MIT students need not leave their screwdrivers, wrenches, and soldering irons at the gate when entering Commencement.

¶ **General David H. Petraeus**, commander of the U.S. Central Command, will give the keynote address at tonight’s ROTC commissioning ceremony on the U.S.S. Constitution.

¶ **The 30th annual Dragon Boat Festival** takes place Sunday on the Charles from noon to 5 p.m. See <http://bostondragonboat.org>.

¶ **Apollo is 40!** Celebrate the moon landings with an all-day symposium on Thursday in Kresge. See <http://apollo40.mit.edu/>. Admission is \$10 for students.

¶ **The Tech** publishes next Friday, then once in July and twice in August, resuming regular Tuesday/Fri-

day publication on Aug. 28.

¶ **The Friendly Toast** opened a breakfast spot in Kendall Square. We hear it’s pretty good.

¶ **The UA Financial Policy Review Committee** is spinning up its review of UA finances, including its funding board. See <http://ua.mit.edu/fprc> for more details.

¶ **The Student Life fee** goes up by \$22 to \$272 next term, **Page 13**.

¶ **Six masked men** were chased out of the Westgate Lowrise on May 11, **Page 17**.

¶ **Finboard, Large Event Fund, and ARCADE** funding results released, **Pages 14–15**.

¶ **NEWS BRIEFS:** Nighttime service at medical curtailed, Lincoln Labs CTO Zachary J. Lemnios nominated to federal Director of Defense Research and Engineering, New Tech Barber is closing, MIT’s AAA bond rating is still intact, **Page 18**.

Send news information and tips to [news@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@the-tech.mit.edu).



# WORLD & NATION

## After an Acquittal on Terrorism Charges, a Case for Deportation

By Damien Cave

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOORE HAVEN, FLA.

Youssef Megahed toyed with a piece of lint on the other side of the bulletproof glass and described his case as simply “weird.”

In April, a federal jury acquitted him on charges of transporting explosives during a road trip with a friend who had packed model rocket propellants in the trunk. But three days later, in the parking lot of a Wal-Mart in Tampa, Megahed was arrested again in connection with the case, this time by immigration authorities.

Some national security experts say the country is safer without such men, and immigration officials declare the deportations both legal and fair. But with President Barack Obama scheduled to speak in Cairo on Thursday about repairing relations with the Muslim world, Megahed is being presented by critics of the immigration strategy here and abroad as a test case of the president’s pledge to break with some of the Bush administration’s most unpopular policies.

## Senate Passes Bill to Ease Government Consolidation

By Nicholas Confessore

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALBANY, N.Y.

The Senate approved legislation Wednesday that would make it easier to cut or consolidate layers of local government in New York, a measure that supporters hailed as a significant step toward relieving tax burdens across the state.

The bill, drafted by the New York state attorney general, Andrew M. Cuomo, simplifies what is now a byzantine set of laws specifying how voters or government officials can choose to dissolve or merge towns, villages and the hundreds of special districts that provide water, sewage treatment and other services throughout the state.

Senate passage of the bill — which was approved by the Assembly on Monday — was also a political victory for Cuomo, who by proposing legislation in May and persuading lawmakers to approve it in a matter of weeks, overshadowed Gov. David A. Paterson, who embraced a related proposal last year but did little to advance it at the time.

At a news conference on Wednesday morning, Paterson, who is expected to sign the bill despite the tension with Cuomo, described the legislation as a collaboration between him and the attorney general.

All told, there are more than 10,000 taxing entities in the state, ranging from special districts that provide volunteer fire departments to those responsible for disposing of duck waste or maintaining fall-out shelters. Special districts are especially plentiful on Long Island, where they generate half the special district tax revenue in the state. Many districts are considered by critics to be little more than patronage mills.

## NBA Is Asked to End Minimum-Age Policy

By Pete Thamel

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A congressman has written a letter to the NBA and its players union asking them to repeal its minimum-age guidelines.

Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., wrote that the four-year-old rule, which requires players to be 19 years old and a year removed from their high school graduation, is of “deep concern.” He added that essentially forcing teenagers to go to college had led to recent college sports scandals.

“It’s a vestige of slavery,” Cohen said Wednesday in a phone interview, noting that most of the affected basketball players are African-American. “Not like the slavery of 150 years ago, but it’s a restraint on a person’s freedoms and liberties.”

# Obama Seeks ‘New Beginning’ With Islamic World

By Jeff Zeleny and Alan Cowell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAIRO, EGYPT

President Barack Obama pledged on Thursday to “seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world,” imploring America and the Islamic world to drop their suspicions of one another and forge new alliances to confront violent extremism and heal religious divides.

“We have a responsibility to join together on behalf of the world we seek,” he said. “A world where extremists no longer threaten our people, and American troops have come home; a world where Israelis and Palestinians are each secure in a state of their own, and nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes; a world where governments serve their citizens, and the rights of all God’s children are respected.”

He dwelled on Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan but reserved some of his sharpest words for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He offered no major initiatives on the Middle East peace process although he put Israelis and Palestinians on notice that he intends to deal directly with what he sees as

intransigence on key issues.

The speech in Cairo, which he called “the timeless city,” redeemed a promise he made nearly two years ago while running for president. It was, perhaps, the riskiest speech of his young presidency, and Obama readily conceded that not every goal would be easily or quickly achieved.

“I have come here to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world; one based upon mutual interest and mutual respect; and one based upon the truth that America and Islam are not exclusive, and need not be in competition,” he said. “Instead, they overlap, and share common principles — principles of justice and progress; tolerance and the dignity of all human beings.”

His message was sweeping and forceful — at times scolding — promoting democracy in Egypt, warning Israelis against building new settlements, and acknowledging that the United States had fallen short of its ideals, particularly in the Iraq war. It also evoked a new and nuanced tone, and some of Obama’s language drew appreciative applause from his audience of 3,000 invited guests in the

Major Reception Hall at Cairo University.

Several times, for instance, he spoke of “Palestine,” rather than the more ambiguous term often used by American leaders, “future Palestinian state.” And, in reference to the Palestinians, he pointedly mentioned “the daily humiliations — large and small — that come with occupation.”

He described the bond between the United States and Israel as “unbreakable,” and urged Hamas, the Islamic militant group in control of the Gaza Strip, to stop violence. But in his next breath, Obama said Israel must curtail its expansion of West bank settlements and recognize Palestinian aspirations for statehood. He also acknowledged that Hamas, which the United States labels a terrorist organization, “does have some support among some Palestinians.”

“But they also have responsibilities,” Obama said, listing them as “to end violence, recognize past agreements, recognize Israel’s right to exist.”

“Israelis must acknowledge that just as Israel’s right to exist cannot be denied, neither can Palestine’s,” Obama said.

# New Hampshire Approves Same-Sex Marriage

By Abby Goodnough

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

The New Hampshire legislature approved revisions to a same-sex marriage bill on Wednesday, and Gov. John Lynch promptly signed the legislation, making the state the sixth to let gay couples wed.

The bill had been through several permutations to satisfy Lynch and certain legislators that it would not force religious organizations that oppose same-sex marriage to participate in ceremonies celebrating it. Some groups had feared they could be sued for refusing to allow same-sex weddings on their property.

Lynch, who previously supported civil unions but not marriage for same-sex couples, said in a statement that he had heard “compelling arguments that a separate system is not an equal system.”

“Today,” he said, “we are standing up for the liberties of same-sex couples by making clear that they will receive the same rights, responsibilities — and respect — under New Hampshire law.”

The law will take effect on Jan. 1. As originally cast, the legislation exempted members of the clergy from having to perform same-sex weddings. Then Lynch, a centrist Democrat, said he would veto the bill unless the Legislature added language also exempting religious groups and their employees from having to participate in such ceremonies.

Lynch also ordered that the bill protect members of religious groups from having to provide same-sex couples with religious counseling, housing designated for married people and other services relating to “the promotion of marriage.”

But the House rejected that language last month by a two-vote margin

— a surprise that proponents attributed to poor turnout — and legislative leaders appointed a committee to negotiate a compromise.

The committee last week recommended small additional changes further emphasizing the rights of religious groups not to participate in same-sex weddings. They include a preamble to the bill that states, “Each religious organization, association, or society has exclusive control over its own religious doctrine, policy, teachings and beliefs regarding who may marry within their faith.”

Republicans have called the committee’s work tainted because the Senate president, Sylvia B. Larsen, a Democrat, replaced one of its Republican members when that legislator would not sign off on last week’s compromise. Under legislative rules, the committee’s decision needed to be unanimous.

# WEATHER

## Summer Outlook

By Garrett P. Marino

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

First of all, congratulations and best wishes to all the graduates. The weather will fortunately allow for outdoor celebrations today. Although it will be cloudy, rain should remain to our south until the evening hours. A coastal storm will scrape us tonight, but pleasant conditions for the weekend will follow.

Many of you will be traveling to other parts of the country this summer, and you might be wondering what to expect weather-wise. Over the last few weeks, a pattern has developed over the eastern Pacific Ocean, known by meteorologists as a Rex block. This Rex block consists of a high pressure system located directly poleward of low pressure. The two act together to “block” the normal eastward migration of weather systems, causing the flow to break into two branches that move around either side of the block. This general pattern is forecasted to hold over the next month or two, and will lead to a wet and cool California, anomalous warmth stretching from Arizona eastward to the Carolinas, and cool conditions over the northern Plains and Great Lakes states. Enjoy the summer!

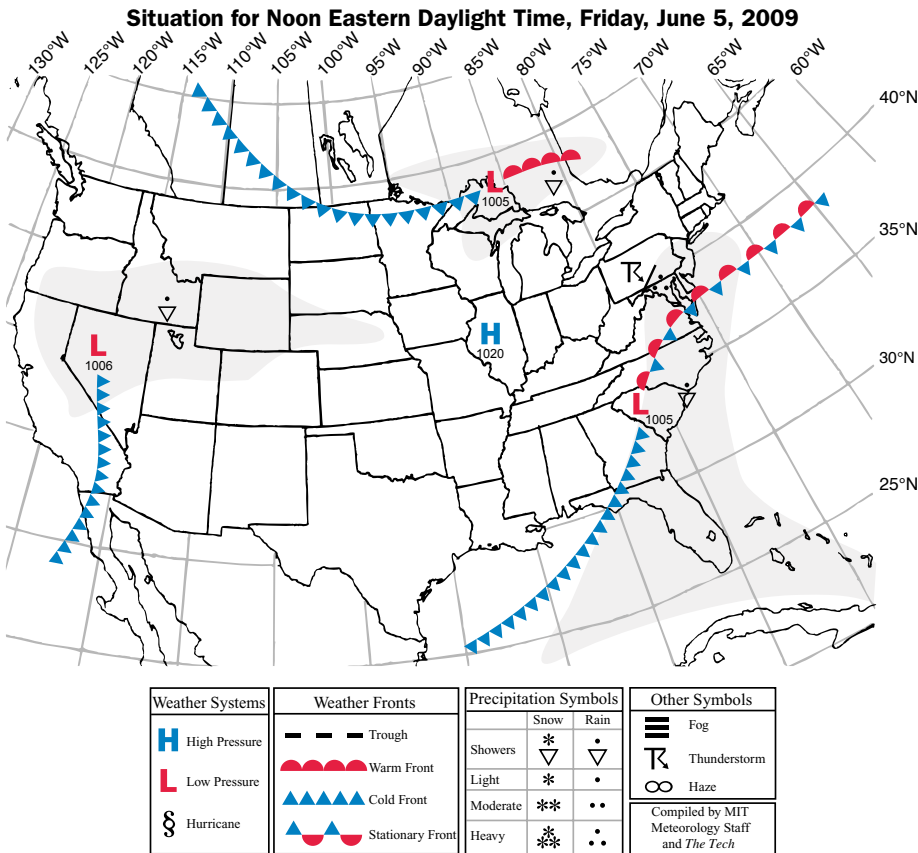
### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Cloudy with highs in the mid 60s°F (19°C). Rain approaching toward evening.

**Tonight:** Rain likely with lows in the lower to mid 50s°F (12°C).

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy with highs near 70°F (21°C).

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny with highs in the mid 70s°F (24°C).



# Small Businesses Taking Steps Toward Online Networking

By **Mickey Meece**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

By choice or necessity, successful small-business owners are earnest networkers, gladly shaking hands, handing out cards and attending local meetings to find and keep customers, solve problems, seek feedback or support and bolster their bottom lines.

Now, the Internet is starting to upend those long-established methods; online networking on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and newer niche sites can be instantaneous and far-reaching.

The sites are efficient and free, which is especially important in an economic downturn, as owners scramble for new customers, said Rob King, vice president for strategic marketing at Sage North America, a unit of Sage PLC, a global supplier of business management software and services.

A recent study for Sage North America found that 65 percent of small businesses that used social networking sites said that they felt more comfortable doing so this year than they did last year, and 51 percent said

that they had acquired and retained customers because of it.

More than 260,000 North American businesses currently use social networking to promote their businesses, King said.

In April, Sage, which has 2.9 million small and midsize business customers, introduced its own networking site, SageSpark.com. “We know we’re not the first to the game,” King said. “Our twist really is the community, tools and services.”

Other niche sites have sprouted recently, like Shustir.com. Last week, Shustir.com introduced its virtual marketplace, which was started by two former Lehman Brothers colleagues, Shu Kim and Khanh Pham. “It matters where you spend,” Kim said, echoing the site’s catchphrase. The goal, they said, is to keep Main Street U.S.A. alive.

“We want you to spend with small businesses,” Pham said. “By doing so, 80 percent of the money goes directly back to the community.”

The site is arranged so owners can create virtual storefronts with photos, video, blogs and store information, and communicate with customers.

PartnerUp has been around longer. It is a social networking site that helps entrepreneurs and small-businesses owners find partners or co-founders, network, ask for and offer up advice, find resources and create or join groups based on their interests. It was founded in 2005 and acquired by the Deluxe Corp. in 2008.

PartnerUp has more than 100,000 active members, and more than 300,000 unique business owners and entrepreneurs come to the site every month, according to Steve Nielsen, its president.

What’s more, when asked which networking opportunities they used most, 46 percent of small-business owners identified traditional methods like conferences, trade shows, local in-person groups or chambers of commerce. Of the remaining respondents, 16 percent cited “other” networking opportunities, 8 percent cited online sites, 7 percent said e-mail messages and 22 percent said they were not sure.

King of Sage North America estimates that small businesses have a 12-month window to figure out online social networking.

# A First French Open Title: Federer Can See It Now

By **Christopher Clarey**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

PARIS

With just two victories separating Roger Federer from that trophy and with no Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic or Andy Murray in sight, Federer was ready to accept the obvious on Wednesday at the French Open.

“It’s true that I’m the big favorite now,” Federer said, his ball cap perched on his left knee and a smile coming easily to his familiar face. “But I was really nervous yesterday and today, because I knew this match against Monfils would be tricky.”

With his elastic power, sprinter’s speed and ability to feed off a home crowd, Gael Monfils was clearly one of the young men to be avoided at this French Open. But Federer coolly worked and served his way past the 11th-seeded Monfils in their quarterfinal, 7-6 (6), 6-2, 6-4, showing little of the edginess that had riddled some of his early-round matches with mishits and doubt.

The key was the first set, in which Federer fought off three break points and a set point in the tiebreaker. Monfils, an emotive sort, then drooped

noticeably for a few games and the lull gave Federer all the momentum he required to roll to victory without once losing his serve.

“My problem in this tournament is I’ve had lots of problems at the start of my matches,” said Federer who had to rally from a two-set deficit in the fourth round to beat Tommy Haas. “I just couldn’t really shake free. Today for the first time I felt I could play a bit more comfortably, and you could see it in my style of play. I hope you’ll see it in my next match. My next two matches.”

The second-seeded Federer also beat Monfils in last year’s semifinals. This year, his opponent Friday will be No. 5 seed Juan Martín del Potro, the tall, powerful and deceptively mobile 20-year-old Argentine who advanced by defeating Tommy Robredo of Spain. Though Robredo, a four-time French Open quarterfinalist, had much more experience, Del Potro was the more poised and powerful force, winning, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

There will be a new men’s champion and a new women’s champion at Roland Garros. Robin Soderling of Sweden expanded the men’s pos-

sibilities by shocking Nadal on Sunday in the fourth round. On Wednesday, Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia eliminated Serena Williams, the only woman remaining who had won the singles title.

In Thursday’s other semifinal, No. 1 seed Dinara Safina of Russia will play another unfamiliar contender: 20th seed Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia.

The warm, dry weather has created quick conditions that benefit attacking players like Federer and Stosur, whose heavy serve and forehand are leaping off the clay more than usual.

Federer had not won a tournament this year until he beat Nadal in the final in Madrid, but he is riding an 11-match winning streak along with a more mind-boggling streak. Federer has extended his record by reaching his 20th consecutive Grand Slam semifinal.

But what matters most to Federer is winning here for the first time, which would allow him to tie Pete Sampras’ record of 14 major singles titles. Even Monfils would like to see him do it and told him so at the net.

# Chrysler Sale to Fiat Moves to Higher Court

By **Michael J. De La Merced**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

A federal appeals court agreed late Tuesday to hear an appeal of Chrysler’s sale to Fiat, after a lower court judge approved the move to help expedite the process.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in Manhattan, has scheduled a hearing for 2 p.m. Friday after Judge Arthur J. Gonzalez of the federal bankruptcy court ordered that the case be sent directly to the appellate bench.

Normally, appeals to bankruptcy court decisions are first heard in U.S. District Court, which sits directly above U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the judicial hierarchy. But cases may be moved directly to the appeals court if a judge finds it necessary. Lawyers for Chrysler had also sought the move.

“This case involves a matter of public importance, and an immediate appeal may materially advance the progress of this case,” Gonzalez wrote in his order.

As part of its decision to hear the case, the appeals court delayed the

closing of the sale, meant to transfer most of Chrysler’s assets into a newer, healthier company.

The appeal was filed by lawyers for a group of Indiana pension funds, which objected to the sale because they were seeking more compensation for the Chrysler secured debt they hold.

Lawyers for Chrysler and the government argued that the sale to Fiat needed to be completed as quickly as possible to preserve its viability and to save thousands of jobs. Fiat can walk away if no agreement is struck by June 15, although that deadline can be pushed back by one month to allow for certain regulatory approvals.

Late Sunday, Gonzalez approved the sale to Fiat, overruling more than 300 objections. On Monday night, he agreed to shorten a customary 10-day stay of the sale to four days, allowing Chrysler to complete the transaction by Friday at noon.

When Chrysler emerges from bankruptcy, it will have a new ownership structure, with a union retiree

trust owning 55 percent, Fiat holding a 20 percent share that could eventually grow to 35 percent and the U.S. and Canadian governments taking minority stakes.

The Indiana funds making the challenge, which include those representing state teachers and police officers, hold about \$42.5 million of Chrysler’s \$6.9 billion in first-lien debt, so called because it is first in line for repayment. But holders of about 92 percent of those loans agreed to a government plan whereby they would receive 29 cents on the dollar in cash for their claims.

Lawyers for the funds have questioned whether Chrysler could have realized a better deal than the Fiat transaction or through a liquidation. They have also raised objections to the sale on constitutional grounds, arguing that the Obama administration was not allowed to give bailout money earmarked for financial institutions to Chrysler.

A hearing on Chrysler’s motion to cut those dealers, which was scheduled for Wednesday morning, was postponed until Thursday.

## Two More Deaths in NYC Are Connected to Swine Flu

By **Jennifer Lee**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES* NEW YORK

Two more deaths linked to swine flu — both of adults in their 40s — were reported by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on Wednesday, bringing the total H1N1-related fatalities in the city to seven.

The department said that six of the seven people who had died — including Mitchell Wiener, an assistant principal at a public school in Queens, who was the first swine flu death in the city — had underlying conditions that could interfere with normal breathing. The seventh death is still under investigation. The city will not release the underlying medical conditions, citing medical confidentiality. Officials would not disclose where in the city the latest two victims lived.

However, the department did release an analysis that showed some 80 percent of the more than 300 people hospitalized with swine flu since mid-April have one or more underlying conditions that put them at risk. Asthma, which affects 10 percent of New York City children, is by far the most common underlying condition, affecting some 41 percent of those hospitalized.

## Paterson Shelves Plan to Revamp Ethics Oversight

By **Danny Hakim**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES* ALBANY, N.Y.

Gov. David A. Paterson shelved his plan to overhaul the state’s ethics oversight commission on Wednesday after Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver unveiled a far different proposal that would preserve the Legislature’s tradition of regulating itself.

Paterson said he had hoped to reach a compromise on the issue by the fall during a special legislative session, but the developments appeared to indefinitely prolong the life of the State Commission on Public Integrity, which oversees lobbying laws and ethics enforcement for the executive branch.

In May, the governor called for the resignations of the 12 sitting commissioners after the state inspector general, Joseph Fisch, issued a scathing report raising questions about their independence. The report accused the panel’s director of repeatedly leaking confidential information about an inquiry into the Spitzer administration to a top Spitzer aide.

The commissioners refused to step aside and rebutted the report, throwing the state’s ethics enforcement into limbo.

On Wednesday, the governor and legislative leaders held a public meeting to discuss an overhaul of ethics oversight in the wake of the Fisch report. Paterson and Senate Democrats have proposed creating a single independent ethics and lobbying commission with jurisdiction over both branches of government. The new commission would encompass the much-maligned Legislative Ethics Commission, which has had no public record of enforcing ethics violations.

But at the meeting Silver unveiled a complex proposal that appeared to doom any chance of swift action. His plan would create four commissions charged with ethics and lobbying oversight of the executive branch and the Legislature. The plan would break up the Legislative Ethics Commission and create a special commission for the Assembly, similar to the Office of Congressional Ethics in the U.S. House of Representatives. Members of the new commission would be appointed by the Assembly’s leaders.

## In Greenwich, Big Discounts on Big Homes

By **Peter Applebome**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES* GREENWICH, CONN.

Even in tough times, some things never change. So workmen were busy on Wednesday unloading a Gatsbyesque armada of vintage cars for this weekend’s Greenwich Concours d’Elegance, a show of classic yachts and automobiles from makers like Rolls-Royce, Pierce-Arrow, Lagonda and Cord.

But, alas, in tough times some things do change. So just as harried home sellers elsewhere are deciding to drop prices in the face of the real estate meltdown, some in Greenwich are, too.

The difference is that given stratospheric starting prices for houses the size of mega-malls the adjustments tend to be a little more drastic than that of your neighbor who dropped his asking price from \$599,000 to \$559,000. Instead, in Greenwich, we’re no doubt seeing some of the biggest price drops in the history of residential real estate.

## Judge’s Nomination Prompts a Republican Balancing Act

By **Carl Hulse**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES* WASHINGTON

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, was not happy when he heard other Republicans toss around terms like “racist” in reference to Judge Sonia Sotomayor, the Supreme Court nominee.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee and the senator responsible for winning Republican Senate races next year, Cornyn worried that such disparaging attacks on the first Hispanic Supreme Court candidate would not only poison the confirmation hearings, but also undercut his party’s standing with an increasingly important voting bloc.

He quickly challenged the standing of the judge’s critics, like former Speaker Newt Gingrich, noting that they were not Republican officeholders and held no real responsibility for passing judgment on President Barack Obama’s choice for the court.

“We are going to treat this nominee with the respect that she is entitled to,” Cornyn said in an interview this week.

Cornyn personifies the competing pressures Republicans face as they sort through how to handle the nomination of Sotomayor, who is under attack from the right but is a symbol of pride for Hispanic Americans.

As a conservative former Texas Supreme Court judge, Cornyn might be expected to make a tough intellectual case against Sotomayor. But as chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, he also has to worry about how the confirmation battle plays across the nation. And his own future back home is tied somewhat to Hispanics who will be closely watching the confirmation proceedings.



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# OPINION

## The Failure of the Task Force on Student Engagement

### Why President Hockfield Needs to Intervene

Andrew T. Lukmann

A little more than a year ago, I sat down with Martin F. Holmes '08 — my successor as Undergraduate Association President — and then-Graduate Student Council President Leeland B. Ekstrom PhD '09 to pen a letter expressing our serious concerns regarding the lack of meaningful student involvement in Institute decision making and outlining our proposals for change. The issue of student input, which had begun to resurface as a concern during my term in office, came to a head last year after the Institute's handling of the arrest of Star A. Simpson '10, the surprising announcement of Green Hall's conversion to undergraduate housing, poor communication regarding the future of W1 and student dining, as well as a number of hacking incidents. After a series of negotiated edits and changes, this letter — which was eventually co-signed by Mr. Holmes, Mr. Ekstrom, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, and Executive Vice President Kirk D. Kolenbrander — was published in the Faculty Newsletter and called for the establishment of a Task Force on Student Engagement.

This original letter — as well as the task force's official charge, drafted last May — clearly defined the scope and purpose of the committee as well as its primary goals. First and foremost, the task force was charged with “developing a philosophy guiding student involvement, recommending opportunities for greater student participation, and proposing methods to ensure [such methods'] success.” The charge even identified a series of discrete tasks to accomplish: (1) pinpoint Institute decisions that are most important to students, (2) identify current pathways used for decision-

making, (3) explore opportunities to strengthen student input into the current process, and (4) promote best practices for both formal and informal communication on key issues.

Today, more than a year later, almost none of these goals have been accomplished. It is clear that the task force has failed to make meaningful progress in addressing its charge. Instead of attempting to solve this long-standing and critically important issue, the committee seems intent on dragging its heels. Instead of discussing reforms to the way that students engage with the entire gamut of decision-making processes at the Institute, the task force has

*Students need to feel that they are full and active members of the campus community, partners in the process of continually improving MIT.*

devolved into a kind of leadership pow-wow where student leaders can rub shoulders with senior administrators.

The Undergraduate Association itself has recently begun to lose confidence in the task force, citing a lack of meaningful progress and poor attendance by the Panhellenic Association, Interfraternity Council, and Dormitory Council officers. (Who can blame them? Nobody wants to participate in a committee that has no intent to ever really address its charge.) In an ironic twist, the task force has even come to represent the very lack of transparency that it was charged to overcome by refusing to pub-

licly issue agendas or minutes of its meetings.

It is in the best interest of MIT's administration and its student leaders to recognize that the same problems that led to the creation of the task force still exist today. A tremendous degree of mistrust between students and administrators remains. This year, this tension was manifested by the establishment of the student-led Campaign for Students protest group and by the organization of a series of well-attended demonstrations in opposition to changes to campus dining and cuts to the varsity sports program.

If President Susan J. Hockfield and the rest of the Institute's senior administrators are serious about their call for a stronger and more cohesive MIT community, they must start by enfranchising the student body. Students need to feel that they are full and active members of the campus community — partners in the process of continually improving the Institute. As partners, they deserve a strong level of influence over the very decisions that have the potential to significantly affect the student experience at this unique institution.

As such, I call on President Hockfield to take an active role in ensuring that the task force begins to accomplish the goals that it was established to address in the first place. The President should also begin to foster and promulgate a new status quo amongst staff and administrators that (as last year's letter called for) “consultation with students should be the default position whenever possible.” Only when the administration begins to take the issue of student engagement seriously — from the top to the bottom — will the painful tears in the bonds of the MIT community begin to mend.

*Andrew T. Lukmann '07, a current Tech Opinion writer, was president of the Undergraduate Association in 2006–2007.*

## How You Will Remake the World

Manish Bhardwaj

Dear fellow graduating students: Congratulations! Alumni from this institute have unique leverage in shaping how people think. This capital has been earned, over almost a century and a half, by the hard work, integrity, and accomplishments of the women and men who have passed through these corridors. So how will you spend this precious currency?

The Institute has always risen to the outstanding challenges of the day. Many technologies forged here in the tragic crucible of the Second World War today give life. But the senseless loss of perhaps as many as 70 million people didn't end in the summer of 1945. Tuberculosis alone may have claimed 40–50 million lives since the armistice. If we add up all preventable deaths — famine, maternal and infant mortality, common diseases with penny cures — the numbers are devastating. And those who survived these calamities were often prevented from realizing their gifts due to prejudice — women, people of color, immigrants, and gays.

This is not to say we have not made great strides. Perhaps injustices of this magnitude require historic amounts of time to be fully redressed. We agree with all of this and are sympathetic, but what does it have to do with us? As engineers, our work will improve the quality of life, and we hope that some of this prosperity will trickle down to the neediest.

But that is only one way in which we will

remake the world. Three billion people live in destitution, not because we lack the economic resources — the global GDP is nearly 70 trillion dollars at parity — but because alleviating poverty and ending disease would be great challenges even for a very determined people, which we are not. This is not because of some grand flaw in our design. It is natural that personal trials trump impersonal ones, and there is a great benefit to society that free people pursue diverse vocations. How much poorer would

*This institute is made great not by its size or splendor or wealth, or by the intellect of its occupants, but by the greater truths uncovered in its passages.*

we be if that great blind seer did not compose the epic of man's fall from grace, or that young patent clerk not uncloak the mysteries of the universe!

But to choose a calling other than service does not absolve us of our greater duties. The duty to recognize the burden of our blessings, to recognize the great capriciousness of a world in which who you are born to, and where and when, continues to shackle destinies. Despite this, in my work in rural health in India, I have

been moved to see the resources and the gifts of a people in trying conditions. Life refuses to be measured by its circumstance and demands instead to be measured by its potential.

This institute is made great not by its size or splendor or wealth, or by the intellect of its occupants, but by the greater truths uncovered in its passages — truths born of an irrepressible curiosity to understand reality and our place in it. In merely acknowledging that our greatest challenges lie not only at the frontiers of technology or commerce, but also in eradicating the grave reality of inequity, indignity, and prejudice, you will subtly shape the thinking of those who listen to you and look up to you. Perhaps, person by person and over time, you will imperceptibly but surely strengthen our collective will to ensure a life of dignity for all. Perhaps, in this way, you will participate in the great, unending task of remaking the world's conscience.

I often imagine one of our younger patients, restored to health, who is woken one morning by the susurration of the falling rain, and who runs outside to behold the enthralling sight that is the monsoon — the ocean itself being poured through a giant sieve. I imagine her, free of the fog of disease, experiencing a joy known only to beings born long ago of distant stars, beings molded painstakingly, trait by trait, over millennia, in fecund plains and thirsty deserts, beings too splendid to perish without reaching their full measure.

*Manish Bhardwaj is a graduating Course VI graduate student.*

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Moral Duty

Some Advice to the Graduating Class of 2009

Keith Yost

It seems odd to write advice “to the graduating class of 2009” when I myself am one of the graduates. If you’re reading this during Commencement, I am currently somewhere between Dublin and Dubai, about to begin my new life as a consultant in the Middle East. When I started writing for *The Tech* back in September, I’d hoped to lay out the beliefs that make me a conservative. Nineteen articles later, I’ve commented on the 2008 election, written policy pieces on everything from education to health care to economics to foreign policy, and even tossed in a few articles on my favorite subject, energy — but I still haven’t gotten to write that defining piece that goes beyond policy prescriptions to core political philosophy. This is the 20th and final article that I’ll written for *The Tech*. I guess it’s now or never.

My advice is simple: Work hard. Save. Invest. Go out into the world and create as much prosperity as you can.

Maybe this sounds crass. Our generation has been taught that an obsession with material things is unhealthy, that profit is a dirty word, and that those who seek wealth are shallow and self-serving. But I think it is the opposite way around. I believe in free markets. I believe that, when free markets work properly, the wages and rewards of a job reflect the social good that job provides. If you’re a burger-flipper, the wages you are paid reflect the worth of the product you helped create. If you’re a farmer, the price of the food you sell reflects the benefit you’ve provided for others. If you’re a consultant, the bonus you receive at the end of the year reflects the wealth you’ve generated by improving a process or helping guide a decision. That’s the beauty of a free market: Each man is rewarded according to the good he provides to society; his self-interests are aligned to encourage him to do as much for his fellow man as he can.

There will always be those who denounce this, who claim that it goes against some moral principle to devote one’s life to making money, that free markets are a tool for the rich to ex-

plot the poor. In America, we have that luxury — to pretend that material progress does not matter, that it is a distraction from our true purpose as human beings. But for most of the world this is not the case. For those who go without food or water or shelter, material progress is everything. For those whose grasp is slipping on the bottom rung of Maslow’s hierarchy of needs, there can be no higher purpose than economic growth. When placed in this context, it seems criminal for graduates in our position to do anything but find the job that pays the highest wages and work as hard as we can.

I’d like to believe that I got to and through MIT on merit, that it was purely by the sweat of my brow and natural skill that I advanced to where I am today ... but it was more chance

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than merit. Simply the circumstance of being born an American ensured that I would be given opportunities that the rest of the world can only dream of. Having a stable family and a good high school added to the advantages. And by getting into MIT, I was afforded an extremely rare opportunity. Out of all of humanity, only a thin sliver are granted the human capital and resources that come with an MIT education. Generations upon generations built and scraped and sacrificed to make this institute, to create this opportunity. What will we do with the hopes of humanity that we have been entrusted with? Will we go backpacking in Europe? Find ourselves on some road trip somewhere? Spend a few months sitting on our parent’s couch watching reruns of *Family Guy*?

There have been wars between countries,

Wars on terrorism, wars on drugs, but the real war, the war that humanity has been fighting from day one, is the war against need. It’s the war against want, against hunger, against thirst, against disease, against entropy and disaster and pain. It’s the struggle to carve out our survival in a harsh and unforgiving world.

In this war, we’ve been given one of the finest arsenals at man’s disposal. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have gone into our education, from kindergarten to this ceremony today. This largesse has been bestowed upon us even as most of our fellow man is stuck in the trenches with little more than rocks. Billions in Africa, Latin America, and Asia have been cast into this world with limited human and physical capital, poor institutions, and little means of escape. The lucky ones have sweatshops, the unlucky simply starve.

This is a time for every American to be down in the trenches with the rest of humanity, fighting for economic growth. For us, with this education, the obligation should be even greater.

We need a new Greatest Generation. It’s time again for that collective sense of purpose, that feeling that we’re fighting and sacrificing for something. Work hard, save, invest. It’s time again to rebuild, to give the fullest measure and provide an endowment for our children and our children’s children.

If you agree with the need for this renewed commitment, but don’t accept my premise that the free market is a signaling device that shows each of us where we can achieve the greatest good, I’ll happily agree to disagree. I’d rather see you as a scientist, a doctor, a banker, or a consultant — but if you want to Teach for America or join the Peace Corps, I’ll respect that your heart is in the right place. However, if you’re stalling your entry into the world out of fear, hiding in a graduate program for the wrong reasons, delaying getting a job because of the apprehension of starting something new and breaking with the old ways, have courage! If MIT has taught me anything, it is that what challenges us and takes us out of our comfort zone makes us stronger. The world needs you, and it is our time.

‘Welcome to MIT’

Lessons From Freshman Year

Maggie Liu

When I woke up one morning before the week of finals, I was appalled to discover bags under my eyes. Wailing, I clutched at the mirror and proclaimed aloud, “Look at how MIT has aged me!” When I told my friends my story, they merely looked at me, bleary-eyed, and one of them fixed me with a raccoon-ringed gaze: “Welcome to MIT.”

All rumors and myths aside, I’ve discovered that the motto “IHTFP” really could not be more suitable. I’ve had my fair share of frantic psetting at 3 a.m., trying to spit out HASS papers on the economic structure of manorial systems, but I think what carried me through was the fact that others around me faced equally daunting plights. It sounds a bit terrible, but suffering together is much more satisfying torture than suffering alone. It’s almost like one has a complete community of like-minded folks — one could even call it a support system.

There are highs and lows throughout the day and many moments that made me wonder if I had chosen MIT for purely masochistic reasons. But when I gazed at all the other 8.02 students at 9 a.m. glaring grumpily at the smart boards, I was glad that at least I was not the only masochist.

The weekend before my freshman spring finals, I was overcome by what seemed to be a taxing cold but later turned out to be bron-

chitis. Thinking that it was merely a severe form of the common cold, I was besieged by the most extreme symptoms — I had a congested nose, I coughed up phlegm every few minutes, and I sneezed an obscene number of times in a row. Needless to say, I was miserable.

I think that it is in our dark times that we realize who really cares about us and we discover the best about those around us. In my case, my illness only underscored the warmth of the

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MIT community. Friends sympathetically offered any cures that they knew — from advice on whether to take Dayquil or Tylenol Cold to offering me their own stash of Ban Lan Gen, a highly detoxifying Chinese herbal drink. After one of my roommate’s friends discovered I was sick, she sacrificed her 8.02 studying to bring me a care basket with five varieties of soup and a get-well card. It was moments like these that made me realize how closely connected the MIT community is.

During the week after finals, as I lay on my porch immersed in nothingness (an activity that is impossible to partake in during the busy times of the school year), I realized that, while I relished in my more carefree lifestyle, a part of me secretly enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the MIT collegiate life. What I hope will translate from summer to fall is the ability to find time for myself and my personal hobbies. While I thoroughly enjoy the company of my friends and my psetting groups, I feel that, especially second semester freshman year, I lost a lot of my hobbies and interests. Fast paced and oft-tumultuous, MIT not only left me with few blocks of true free time, it also rendered me incapable of accomplishing much in my alone time aside from sleeping. My passion for extracurricular activities, and not necessarily school-related ones, seemed to be unsustainable given the pressures I faced. The MIT community makes admirable attempts at reaching out to students and pushing them to pursue their passions; however, it is also important to realize that these passions do not necessarily involve being in a particular club or competition, but can and should sometimes be done for the sake of only personal gratification.

After my first year, I’ve realized that, to fully immerse oneself in the MIT experience, one must immerse themselves in the community without losing one’s personal identity. Being involved is important, but doing things that make you happy is just as crucial.

A Freshman  
Looks Back

The Key Elements  
to a Great Education  
Remain Strong at MIT

Ethan Solomon

It’s always easy to complain about things. For some reason, humans have the amazing innate ability to hone in on the bad and neglect the good. And at a place like MIT, it’s especially easy to fall into that trap. The rigor of the courses, problem sets, and tests coupled with everything MIT has to offer inside and out of the classroom contribute to the hybrid nature of our unofficial motto, “IHTFP.” Immortalized on every class ring, it is often a cry of frustration (at least mentally) and sometimes invoked as a term of endearment (e.g. “I Have Truly Found Paradise”). It can even be both simultaneously. But whether or not you have ever, or ever will think of MIT as “paradise,” we sometimes forget amidst the dining failures, sports cuts, and housing issues that this place does a lot of things right.

First, MIT is not in the business of giving out degrees on silver platters. The frenzied and obsessive nature of the modern college admissions quest makes getting in seem like the hardest battle, but I’m glad MIT has kept sight on what’s really important — a solid education. MIT has thus far successfully avoided the grade inflation trend sweeping some of the nation’s top schools, and rightfully so. It seems like a no-brainer, but no student is automatically entitled to an A, and MIT “gets” that.

*The New York Times* reported in February that 30 percent of students expect a B for simply going to class. Two-thirds claimed that if they spoke to a professor and indicated that they

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were “trying hard,” it should be factored into the grade. MIT professors are happy to reward hard work, but only if it is tangibly demonstrated. Other schools would be wise to buck the grade inflation trend and emulate MIT — here, grades are a function of a student’s performance.

Outside the classroom, this year has given MIT students a great opportunity to stand up for what they believe in. The release of the Blue Ribbon dining recommendations and subsequent release of the final report itself gave us an opportunity to showcase the kind of independent initiative that Admissions looked for when we were accepted into MIT. Instead of complacently accepting the decisions passed down from the administrations, we made our discontent heard, and, more importantly, brought new suggestions and proposals to the table. I was glad to see evidence that MIT students aren’t the type to merely identify a problem, complain about it, and let somebody else deal with it. Rather, we’re the type to actually do something constructive and bring something new to the table. You don’t see a lot of that in the American media or American government, and I’m relieved to see that attitude in force at a place like MIT.

MIT’s “we’re here to save the world” ethos is an extension of that kind of constructive attitude. Whether or not you agree that our “Green Energy” or cancer-curing initiatives will truly end up saving the planet, there’s something to be said for promoting a culture of optimism. As Dr. Steven Chu, U.S. Secretary of Energy mentioned in his presentation in 10-250 last month, it’s worth the time and money to let scientists run with their ideas. MIT should ensure that it remains committed to supporting faculty and student research regardless of the perceived “practicality” of that endeavor.

If you asked other freshmen, they might have given you a very different set of things they like about MIT. And that’s a testament to my final point — MIT’s diversity. It’s cliché, but important. In an academic and social sense, the range of cultures, countries, and backgrounds represented at MIT contribute to the spectrum of ideas and perspectives that are so valuable to research and learning. Despite the transient and circumstantial flaws of particular administrations, the fact that the Institute can cater so well to such a diverse array of individuals confirms that the worthy ideas at the core of the university remain strong.



# ARTS

## THEATER REVIEW

### Let's Talk About Sex, Baby

'Spring Awakening' Confronts the Issue

By Maggie Liu  
STAFF WRITER

Spring Awakening  
Directed by Michael Mayer  
Colonial Theatre, Boston, Mass.  
April 28 – May 24, 2009

Based on the 1891 Frank Wedekind play of the same name, *Spring Awakening* is a modern musical focusing on age-old issues. It confronts sex, love, and everything in between through a musical score that is much more akin to radio rock songs than the classic music characteristic of shows like *Les Misérables*.

*Spring Awakening* is about the challenges teenagers face while discovering their sexuality in a world that doesn't want them to. This story is not simply about hormone-driven lovers and

angsty teens; what the audience is given is a graphic, bittersweet, but timeless picture of the pain, joy, and pleasure that accompany the process of discovering one's sexual self.

The musical begins in nineteenth century Germany with a young girl named Wendla Gergmann who hesitantly asks her mother how babies come to be. Flustered, the mother attempts to evade the subject, but eventually answers with, "Babies come to be when a woman loves a man with her whole heart." This opening conversation evokes one of the guiding questions of the musical: Is making love the same thing as love? The scene also epitomizes how parents, as authoritarian figures, struggle to preserve the status quo by withholding truth, and how this process of protecting their children results in chaos and tragedy. This is emphasized in the director's decision to only cast two actors for the roles of all the

adult figures.

While there is a main plot that some may consider a love story, it is the interaction of all the characters that creates the effectiveness of *Spring Awakening*. Wendla's love interest is Melchior Gabor, an intelligent and precocious golden boy who "does not believe in anything." The third main character is Melchor's friend, the fumbling and nervous Moritz Stiefel, who is terrible in school and an altogether awkward young fellow, despite his best efforts. Through a chain of unfortunate and catalytic events, their worlds are changed forever.

The music was composed by Duncan Sheik with lyrics and script by Steven Slater. Much of the music borders on alternative rock, contributing to a refreshingly edgy vibe. The songs (many of which are explicitly titled) have lyrics that are quite deep, rather than the usual mush about love

and despair, and they directly address controversial topics. "The Bitch of Living," for instance, deals with the frustration of not understanding one's angst. Another crowd please, "Totally Fucked," roused the audience thanks to the raw emotion and expression in the lyrics and singers' voices.

*Spring Awakening* is a brave and unnervingly in-your-face musical. Overall, it communicates its message well and is bold in its artistic direction. It is worthy of its 11 Tony Award nominations. Every aspect of the musical is crafted carefully, including the fluid transitions choreographed by Bill T. Jones. What was most amazing to me was that the original play was written in 1891. Although *Spring Awakening* is hailed as a modern musical, it also addresses age-old issues that have always existed but may not have been scrutinized and exposed in such a public light.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

### The Wine Cellar

Real French Fondue, Right Down the Street

By Martha Angela Wilcox  
STAFF WRITER

The Wine Cellar  
30 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass. 02115  
(617) 236-0080  
Open Tuesday–Sunday 5:30–10:30 p.m.

School is finished, and the summer is upon us. Who wouldn't want to visit the cheese capital of the world — beautiful France — with her rolling countryside and complex wines? Fortunately, Thierry Charles of The Wine Cellar, the fondue restaurant located conveniently across the

Harvard Bridge, has brought France to Back Bay. With its exposed brick and wrought iron, The Wine Cellar is a very cozy place, perfect for intimate gatherings of close friends and family and even better for getting to know a new group of people. The cook-it-yourself fondue style fosters conversation and makes the meal feel more like a group activity than a simple dinner.

My date, Eric, and I arrived and were promptly greeted by several of the waiters and the owner himself, who enthusiastically professed his love for being at his restaurant every night.

We received numerous suggestions about which of the many menu offerings to try. The best suggestion of all? Don't miss the authentic experience, which always includes the traditional cheese fondue, a bubbling mixture of gruyere and emmental cheeses with cracked pepper and a splash of kirsh in a garlic-rubbed pot. The second best suggestion? Cheese can be really filling; move slowly on the cheese fondue, so you can make it to the meat!

The fondue dinner is meant to be shared, so Eric and I ordered together. We decided to start with the Classic (\$21 for two), the traditional cheese fondue, and the Savoyard Raclette (\$21 for two), which is a classy, Brandy-enfused French version of the nacho complete with bread covered in miniature sweet pickles, creamy cheese, ham, and mushrooms. Both dishes were delicious, and I had trouble keeping myself from devouring the entire basket of bread and potatoes, cubed into bite-size pieces perfect for dipping into the cheese.

Fortunately, we were able to maintain a slow pace and make it to the meat course. Eric and I chose the traditional beef tenderloins (\$28) and the more exotic Crazy French (\$45), including marinated kangaroo, ostrich fillet, and rabbit loin. We had two types of fondue pots for cooking our meats; one was an oil-based pot and the other was a vegetable broth. The oil pot was extremely fast to cook with, taking under less than a minute, but the vegetable broth slow-cooked the meat to perfection. Though the traditional meats were very tasty, especially when dipped into the

seven special sauces available, Eric and I best loved the kangaroo meat. I'd try to describe it, but none of the other meats I've tried come close. If you're a meat-lover, I definitely recommend trying the Crazy French, as one of the few dishes in Boston I've seen with an exotic meat choice!

Finally, for dessert we had the Classic (\$18), a dark chocolate fondue with a hint of the orange-flavored Grand Marnier liquor. This fondue came with a gorgeous arrangement of seasonal fruits, marshmallows, lady fingers, and mini-brownies, all for dipping into the sweet chocolate. We ate everything on the plate and were kindly offered more fruits and cookies to finish off all the extra chocolate. Though the description sounded somewhat plain, I'm convinced they put something special into the chocolate because the taste was wonderfully rich.

Though The Wine Cellar may seem a bit pricey from the description and I definitely enjoyed taking every excursion on the menu, do know that I would have been just as satiated having even half the amount of food. The portions were quite generous (meals for two could easily mean a meal for three or four!), and the waiters were always willing to bring more bread, potatoes, sauces, and cookies to help finish the last bit of the pot. Still, I'd recommend the place for special occasions. The cozy atmosphere lends itself very well to special events. Make sure to make a reservation though, because by 7 p.m., even on a Tuesday night, this popular dinner destination was full!



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

A dark chocolate fondue with a splash of Grand Marnier with fresh fruits and cookies for dipping.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

### Great Appetizers and Outstanding Entrees

KO Prime's Dishes Are Easy to Look at, Easy to Enjoy

By Martha Angela Wilcox  
STAFF WRITER

KO Prime  
90 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. 02108  
(617) 772-0202

The moment you walk in the door of KO Prime, the well-acclaimed steakhouse near the Park Street T stop, you feel trendy, surrounded by a funky chocolate and red decor complemented by faux cow skin chairs and zebra-striped pillows. KO Prime feels more like a modern lounge than a restaurant, and indeed, the spacious dining room is adjoined by a classy bar and couches. While fun and upbeat describe the atmosphere itself, the food is nothing less than elegant.

My date and I were greeted by the friendly manager, who frequently stopped by all of the guests' tables during the evening. He made everyone feel welcome, and our waitress was very personable. Looking at the menu, I was immediately enticed by the exotic choices, complemented of course with the more standard steakhouse fare. KO Prime not only has a Caesar salad with grilled croutons (\$9), but they also offer a bone marrow appetizer with a blood orange salad and a touch of beef tongue marmalade (\$13). I wanted a surprise, so I chose the bone marrow and my date selected the duet of foie gras and poached Forelle pear (\$19). Both dishes were a deli-

cate balance of meat with a hint of sweetness from the oranges and pears. Visually, they were as impressive as they were delicious. Certainly, I will be back to KO Prime very soon if only to sample more from the creative appetizer menu.

The entrees were just as gorgeous, and the proportions were generous enough that a single meal could have fed two. I ordered the braised rabbit with morels in fresh pappardelle (a jumbo version of fettucine) surrounded by fava beans (\$28) with a side helping of jumbo green asparagus coated in a tangy hollandaise (\$9). The rabbit was tender and succulent, but beware, the pappardelle does dominate the dish. My date purchased the 26-ounce T-Bone steak (\$44), one of the several steak specialties on the menu. The flavor-packed steak was neither under- nor over-cooked and had a perfect juicy taste to it. Not only that, but the steak itself was so chic, surrounded by petite pink petals, that I wasn't sure whether to enjoy the view out of the massive windows overlooking Tremont Street or to marvel at such a beautiful steak. If there's an art KO Prime has mastered, it's the art of crafting a scrumptious and equally visually-pleasing steak.

Finally, for dessert we chose a chocolate mint torte and a lavender creme brulee (\$9). While these did not stand up to the beauty and taste of the appetizers and entrees, they

were still quite good. That said, if you're watching your pocketbook, I'd recommend trying one of the sweeter appetizers rather than the desserts.

The restaurant had a classy and modern atmosphere and served up food that looked as good as it tasted. So come to KO Prime like

we did for a tasty dinner right near the Boston Common, or maybe try something different and stop by for breakfast, a late-night snack, or all you can eat wild boar chili (\$5) from 5–7 p.m. every night! Don't miss one of the most extraordinary appetizer menus in the Boston area.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

A 26 oz. T-bone steak with allium butter and fried onions is served in KO Prime style, decorated with flower petals.

BOOK REVIEW

# Make Yourself Useful

## A Stoic Vision of the Good Life

**By Rosa Cao**  
*STAFF WRITER*  
*Shop Class as Soulcraft:*  
*An Inquiry Into the Value of Work*  
By Matthew B. Crawford  
The Penguin Press, \$25.95  
Released May 28, 2009

What is the good life? More to the point, what is an attainable good life given our current cultural and economic circumstances? How do we develop and practice what is best in ourselves despite the forces arrayed against us?

In *Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work*, Matthew B. Crawford outlines one vision for human flourishing, based on an understanding of human nature as fundamentally instrumental — that is, engaged in active and physical manipulation of our surroundings. In a lucid account that owes as much to Marx as it does to Heidegger, Crawford advocates the value of labor in fully engaging our human capacities and decries the degradation of the manual trades. He argues with humor and conviction that fulfillment is to be found in the admiration and pursuit of excellence as an intrinsic good, measured not by how much money we make, but in what we literally do. From the privileged position of one who has made a living in some very different ways — from wiring houses to writing philosophy to following the Kafka-esque directives of his employer as a cubicle lackey — Crawford concludes that skilled labor is something like the best of all possible professions.

What is special about manual work? Crawford argues that a mechanic is not really so different from a doctor: Both must try to understand situations not of their own making, drawing on factual knowledge reserves, but more importantly, a kind of personal knowledge or intuition that is uniquely human. They must enlist cognitive skills and exercise creativity in their search to first understand the problem and then create a solution. In a sense, the philosopher's love of knowledge and the mechanic's desire to know what is wrong and how to fix it are one and the same. (It is also an apt description of much of experimental science and engineering.)

Furthermore, embodied and essentially hu-

man expertise represents tacit knowledge that cannot be replaced by algorithms, and so defines a refuge from the instabilities of a global economy: jobs that are physical and inherently situated cannot be offshored; jobs that require human kinds of understanding and dexterity are not easily automated for machine implementation.

A recent Associated Press rundown of growing areas in this economy provides evidence for Crawford's pragmatic thesis: Engineers, nurses, skilled and unskilled manual labor were among the most-sought hires, while auto repair shops, building contractors, and trade and technical schools saw increases in demand.

Crawford writes as well as anyone about the phenomenal experience of actually working on a physical project. His frustrations and triumphs are clear. There is the occasional hand-drawn illustration of the object at hand. There are cam lobes and cylinders and goo, rubbing up against verbs like "gall." But even with the vivid descriptions of his mechanical work, it's sometimes hard for a non-mechanic to understand exactly what Crawford is doing — perhaps demonstrating that some kinds of personal knowledge are so embodied in experience that they lose their meaning in the abstraction to words.

Meanwhile, those jobs that can be reduced to mindless routine have been, and even many of those that cannot have been corrupted in the attempt, resulting in a general "stupidification." It is in his biting criticism of the wresting of abstract process from concrete action (thinking from doing) that Crawford is most eloquent. "The activity of self-directed labor, conducted by the worker, is dissolved or abstracted into parts and then reconstituted as a process controlled by management — a labor sausage." But it is not just the private sector's "monster of profit maximization" that is to blame for this alienation; in the public sector, Crawford says, liberalism is a "politics of irresponsibility," destroying individual agency by removing authority from individuals in favor of a "neutral process." In the white collar professions, "expert systems," however unreliable, are replacing human judgment — and, this relinquishing of judgment, Crawford argues, is at least partly responsible for the financial mess we have experienced.

How did we end up in this mess? By struc-

*Jobs that require human kinds of understanding and dexterity are not easily automated for implementation by machines.*

INTERVIEW

# Mens et Manus

## The Manual Arts as Mindwork

**By Rosa Cao**  
*STAFF WRITER*  
*Matthew B. Crawford runs a motorcycle repair shop. He is also a writer and enjoyed a multi-year affair with academia in political philosophy. In his new book Shop Class as Soulcraft, he considers his experiences as white-collar minion vs. self-employed manual tradesman. Crawford argues that for many, the second may be both more economically rewarding and fundamentally satisfying.*

**The Tech:** How would you compare your particular trade of motorcycle repair to other professions involving hands-on activity? I'm thinking of both prestigious "white-collar" occupations like medicine or experimental science, and less well-paying ones in the service industry such as hairdresser or cook?

**Matthew Crawford:** I see clear parallels between medicine and what a mechanic does; both are diagnosing and fixing things that are not of their own making, and therefore they have to get outside their own heads and pay attention. This is what a good artist does as well, if her art is representational.

**TT:** Or what about raising children? You were criticized in *The New York Times Book Review* for a "macho" attitude — was that a fair criticism?

**MC:** I was left scratching my head a little by that review. I wrote about what I know, which is trades that are more commonly done by men. But there are women in these trades. The best Ducati mechanic in Richmond, as anyone will tell you, is a woman named Deanna. I think women face some extra hurdles; they have to overcome a set of preconceptions when they become mechanics or go into the building trades. There's a very good book coming out this summer by Jessica DuLong. She's a marine engineer; she runs the engines on a fireboat on the Hudson River. She does a really nice job of describing the process of dealing with people's attention toward her as a peculiarity.



COURTESY OF ARIEL SKELLEY

**Matthew B. Crawford stands next to a 973 Ducati 750 GT in his motorcycle service shop in Richmond, VA. The portrait on the wall is of Winston Churchill.**

tural necessity, capitalism must "assiduously partition thinking from doing" in order to lower costs and raise efficiency. Over time, mainstream perceptions of blue-collar work have come to depend on a false dichotomy between cognitive work and manual labor. With their associations of grime, sweat, and plumber's butt, these paint a picture of the trades as inferior to the "mind work" of the spotless cubicle with its suit-and-tied inhabitant. But we all know the cubicle is no picnic either — witness the popularity of *Dilbert* or *The Office*. Crawford one-ups these familiar scenarios in a chapter that is both funny and vicious, combining his own experiences with Harry Braverman's and Robert Jackall's observations to conclude that the average mid-level white-collar worker resembles none so much as a Soviet bureaucrat, who must exercise absurd moral acrobatics in order to survive, and then only in a state of severe existential anxiety. Mere cogs in a machine have it easier.

Not only are we compromised as workers, but we have also been brainwashed as consumers. Crawford points out that "too often the defenders

of free markets forget that what we really want is free men." We now mistake consumption of goods for fulfillment, confuse picking between trivially different pre-determined options with true freedom of choice, and extoll lack of rigor in place of creativity. But some niggling doubt remains, and Crawford argues that despite what we have been led to believe, we long for responsibility. We want to exercise our judgment and seek out excellence; we want to create and renew and repair. True freedom is found in the context of a community's shared idea of the good. Knowing the man who will use and appreciate the product of my labor — being responsible to him

*Crawford points out that "too often the defenders of free markets forget that what we really want is free men."*

— gives value to my work, even as appreciating someone else's job well done creates a feeling of solidarity and mutual respect.

In Crawford's account of his trade, it becomes clear that he has found a particular, perhaps boutique, brand of manual labor, one very different from the assembly line or janitorial beat. The rewards of his work include doing a job from beginning to end, face-to-face interaction with customers, and the feeling of being embedded in a community — not to mention being his own boss. But most laborers are not as lucky as Crawford, and many of these satisfactions will be missing from other manual jobs, even skilled ones. And the economic viability of manual labor as a livelihood depends at least partly on supply and demand. If everyone decides to become a plumber, will that job market start resembling the one facing freshly minted humanities PhDs?

What, then, is the spirited human to do? Crawford acknowledges some of the difficulties when "opportunities for self-employment and self-reliance are preempted by distant forces," in an economy dominated by what he terms the "Giant Pool of Money." But where Marx called for revolution, Crawford settles for Stoicism. "Every job entails some kind of mutilation," but some jobs are worse than others. The electrician may suffer bruises and shocks, "but none of this damage touches the best part of yourself." Learn a trade, Crawford exhorts the new graduate. Find good work in the world we have (not the world we want). Seek out a crack in which to flourish.

There is much to like in Crawford's vision, but also some blind spots. He doesn't give much consideration to the moral dimensions or larger consequences (social, environmental) of what we choose to do. Must the Stoic be as resigned to work in the skilled construction of a better landmine or private jet as in the skilled repair of useful things? And if true understanding is in *use* rather than theory, then what is the role of philosophy?

Compelling and occasionally cranky, Crawford's writing is reminiscent of Fukuyama's and Bloom's, coupled with the accessible clarity (but also occasional facileness) of a Gladwell. He also riffs on Pirsig's *Zen*, but handily avoids the mystic mumbo-jumbo of that earlier "inquiry into values." Anecdotes and illustrative elaborations nestle amidst the sources in footnotes well worth going through (it is here that we learn the author grew up in a commune). In a way it's ironic that reading this book is such a pleasure. Because, of course, if Crawford had devoted himself completely to the art of motorcycle maintenance, it would never have been written.

An excerpt from *Shop Class as Soulcraft* was published in the May 21 issue of the New York Times Magazine: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/24/magazine/24labor-t.html?pagewanted=all>.

The fact is, most mechanical work is a lot more mental than it is physical, so size and strength don't come into it very often. When they do, the smaller you are, the smarter you have to be about it. I'd say that the desire to take a tool in hand and see a direct effect of your actions in the world is a universal human desire, and that women can relate to this as well as men.

**TT:** Could you say a little bit on how/why you chose the word "soulcraft" for your title?

**MC:** The title was originally a riff on the title of a book by George [F.] Will that came out in the '80s: *Statecraft as Soulcraft*. I thought substituting "Shop Class" for "Statecraft" was

*"The desire to take a tool in hand and see a direct effect of your actions in the world is a universal human desire."*  
—Matthew B. Crawford

kind of funny. I guess it's been my own private amusement. Of course, the title is also serious in that education is a kind of forming of the soul, and work forms us as well.

**TT:** I was struck by how much your writing built on ideas from Marx and Heidegger. Did these thinkers have an effect on the way you lead your life in a concrete and immediate way?

**MC:** It's totally post-hoc. I guess we're drawn to thinkers that help us make sense of our own experiences. I didn't get into Heidegger until several years after I'd left grad school. On slow winter days at the shop, there was no taking your mind off the freezing cold in the warehouse, so sometimes I'd head to the library, and that's where I started reading Heidegger. I'm still finding my way into his thought; *Division I* of *Being and Time* keeps unfolding beautiful

things for me, and I haven't ventured much beyond it, except for a couple of later essays.

**TT:** The philosopher Stephen Toulmin has advocated similar ideas (e.g. in *Cosmopolis*) about practical concerns, or the importance of the specific over the "deadening abstraction" of general laws favored by many scientists and thinkers. Have you read him? What do you think?

**MC:** I haven't read Toulmin. The other day, somebody informed me that I am a Deweyan. I haven't read him either. I learned long ago not to be surprised when it turns out I've been re-inventing the wheel. There isn't much new under the sun.

**TT:** Are you glad that you spent those years in graduate school?

**MC:** I loved every minute of being in grad school at Chicago. It's what comes after grad school that is so demoralizing: often years of bouncing around the country in one-year visiting positions, teaching four classes a semester, and therefore being unable to extricate yourself from this purgatory by publishing. I know one guy who's been doing that for ten years! I could see it coming in my own case, but luckily dodged it.

**TT:** There's one passage where you say that the academic world struck you as "an industry" and furthermore, one "hostile to thinking." But you distinguish between academia in general and "the intellectually serious circle of my friends and teachers at Chicago."

**MC:** My "hostile to thinking" comment pertained more to the problem that when thinking gets professionalized, it can kind of turn into its opposite: the policing of various disciplinary boundaries, etc. But, to answer your question, yes, I think Chicago is an amazing place.

**TT:** Would you advise people who genuinely enjoy school and books to go to graduate school, even if it doesn't guarantee a satisfying job afterwards?

**MC:** I would advise anyone who is passionate about ideas to pursue that passion, in whatever way they can.



# CAMPUS LIFE

## Brouhaha Rhythm

### Going Home

By Michael Lin  
*CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR*

Coming home for the summer from MIT has been a time-honored tradition for me, assuming two years is sufficient to establish a tradition. As lovely as I hear Boston gets in the summertime, there's too much waiting for me at home — family, friends, a significant other, and a job — for me to stay. Assuming, therefore, that going home would be my first and only choice for my summer plans, it logically followed that I'd have to bundle up the entire contents of my hovel and put most of it in storage, a process that consumed more time and more space than I probably would have liked.

Even now, I have only the faintest understanding of how on earth I managed to get everything more or less squared away, a certain bending of storage rules aside — all due apologies to the people in charge of Next House storage. Reams of paper were recycled, bags full

of trash were tossed (including, ironically, bags full of bags), and even then, the sheer volume of things in my room remained seemingly constant. I consider myself lucky that my sleeping bag fit in my refrigerator, although how lucky I feel when it comes out depends a great deal on the results of the sniff test. Good thing it's machine-washable. Once I'd divvied up my belongings between what I was squirreling away underground and what I was taking home, I hailed a cab/mobile nap center early Saturday morning and headed out to South Station to catch my train.

I like taking the train home. Granted, what would ordinarily be a 90-minute trip by air becomes a 12-hour epic trek by rail, but at least Amtrak doesn't care if I have nail scissors or a tube of toothpaste in my bag, or whether I'm using nontransmitting electronic devices while we're pulling out of the station. The baggage allowance is so lenient that I could probably package the air in my dorm

and take it home with me. As it is, I brought with me two suitcases, a backpack, and a sports bag, all carry-on. There are also power outlets for every seat — nothing eases a 12-hour trek like a collection of DVDs and a powered-up laptop. If I wanted, I could open a can of instant soup with a pocketknife, then microwave it at my seat, with seat back and tray table in their fully reclined and unlocked positions. While wearing a trench coat made entirely out of circuit boards. Twelve hours goes by quick.

Mind you, just because I was in a hurry to get home doesn't mean I'm not a little jealous of the folks staying on campus. With the mass exodus of college-aged folk and the mass influx of tourists visiting locations other than MIT, you get the run of the town while business owners are trying their hardest to impress (or alternately, are at their most jaded). More than that, all those cool weather phenomena like warm sunny days and dramatic electri-

fied downpours don't show up until after the term ends. Frankly, it just doesn't seem quite fair. When I was in town, all I saw was half-hearted drizzle and devious overnight snowfall destined to become the slush in my shoes the next day. The day before I left, it was warmer in Boston than it was in Virginia Beach by a solid 10 degrees Celsius. Does that seem right to you?

I swear that I'm not bitter, all evidence to the contrary. Truly, I'm happy to be back home, and slightly less happy that I'm theoretically halfway through with my undergraduate career. That probably sounds much less legitimate to the new graduates, who are facing the precipitous unknown of a post-college existence in the real world or slightly-more-sympathetic graduate school. I guess I'll have the entire summer to have an academic existential crisis. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to savor hurricane season on the beach while I can.

## Gadget Review

### iPod Shuffle: So Small, We Lost It

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg  
*EXECUTIVE EDITOR*

**What it is:** Apple's newest iPod Shuffle, a portable music player that holds 4 gigabytes of songs (about 72 hours, more than a thousand songs).

**What it does:** Plays music in random order.

**iPod:** \$79

**Apple in-ear headphones (accessory):** \$79

One-sentence review: We lost it, we found another one, and we shot it.

First things first: The iPod Shuffle is seriously so small that we lost it.

To test the Shuffle's durability, we treated it the way we treat all review hardware — if someone wants to see it, they have to be standing on the other side of the room, and you have to throw it. Within days, the device simply disappeared.

I think maybe our Roomba ate it. (One-sentence Roomba review: it keeps getting lost in corners so obscure that we once reported it stolen.)

The good news is, we had a backup Shuffle, so here's the review.

#### Unexpectedly good user interface

The iPod's single button lets you choose between playing music randomly or playing from lists of songs you can make in iTunes while the Shuffle is connected to your computer.

Want to change the volume? Switch between tracks or playlists? Pause the music? You'll need to press the buttons on your headphones. The Shuffle has no display; instead it will "say" the names of your songs, artists, and playlists using a speech synthesizer.

I was skeptical of the idea of pressing buttons near my neck to pick songs and change earphone volume. But even though I kind of felt like a dork using the interface, I'm forced to admit that it comes naturally and works efficiently.

One problem: Those extra buttons are only available on the earphones that came with the iPod or on the \$79 accessory earphones. If you have "other" headphones or speakers, you'll be lucky if the Shuffle even plays music through them — I was able to get music to come out at a neutral volume but inconsistently. Third-party adapters to give "other" headphones those extra controls are on the way to the market.

There's nothing to say about the Shuffle's sound quality; it's perfectly fine. The device is tiny, but it comes with a reassuringly strong clip that will keep it attached to a shirt or pocket.

The Shuffle has only one input, a headphone jack that can be hooked up to a USB port to charge its battery or add music, along with a special Apple dongle which is almost bigger than the Shuffle itself. (Maybe that's why we managed not to lose the dongle.)

I couldn't manage to wear down its battery, even after ten hours of playing music. (Apple rates its life at ten hours.) It's tiny and it's very light (10.7 grams), but it has no display and it seemed to last forever. Later, a bullet through the battery did the trick (see sidebar).

#### Earphones provide good isolation

The earphones that came with the Shuffle

made my ears hurt. They sounded OK — I could hear low bass and high treble fine — but any other headphones would be better.

Because of this iPod's proprietary connection, Apple's in-ear earphones are your only choice for other headphones. At \$79, they cost as much as the Shuffle itself, but these earphones are priced well for their performance. I could hear soft, high parts of the theme song to the game "Peggle Deluxe" that I didn't know existed.

They fit snugly in my ears and provided isolation that was noticeable, if not extraordinary. (MIT pistol coach Will Hart Jr.'s noise-canceling headphones worked much better — but more on that later.) One downside: After a week of normal use, the earphones get covered in ear wax. Don't lend them to a friend. That's weird.

#### Is it worth it?

If you want the real iPod Shuffle experience, you should expect to pay \$79–158 for the Shuffle and \$79 for the best available earphones. That's awfully close to the cost of an iPod Nano, which has a screen, offers better control over what songs you get to hear, and can more easily be hooked up to speakers at a party.

But if you want something so light you might lose it, with a comfortable, long-lasting music listening experience, this could well be the iPod for you.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH  
**DURABILITY TESTING—A .22-caliber bullet fired by MIT Pistol Coach Will Hart Jr. hits the latest iPod Shuffle at the MIT Rifle Range. The strobe used to illuminate the shot was provided by Jim Bales of the Edgerton Center, who also helped set up the scene.**

## Sidebar: We Shot It

We lost our first iPod Shuffle. To keep the second one from getting away, we decided to shoot it. As it turned out, the iPod's lightweight aluminum case proved no defense against an expert marksman's rifle.

MIT pistol coach Will Hart Jr., Edgerton Center assistant director James W. Bales, and Tech photographer Eric D. Schmiedl '09 got together to do some high-speed strobe bullet photography. The .22-caliber round used to shoot the iPod, pictured below, is just about the same width as the popular music player.

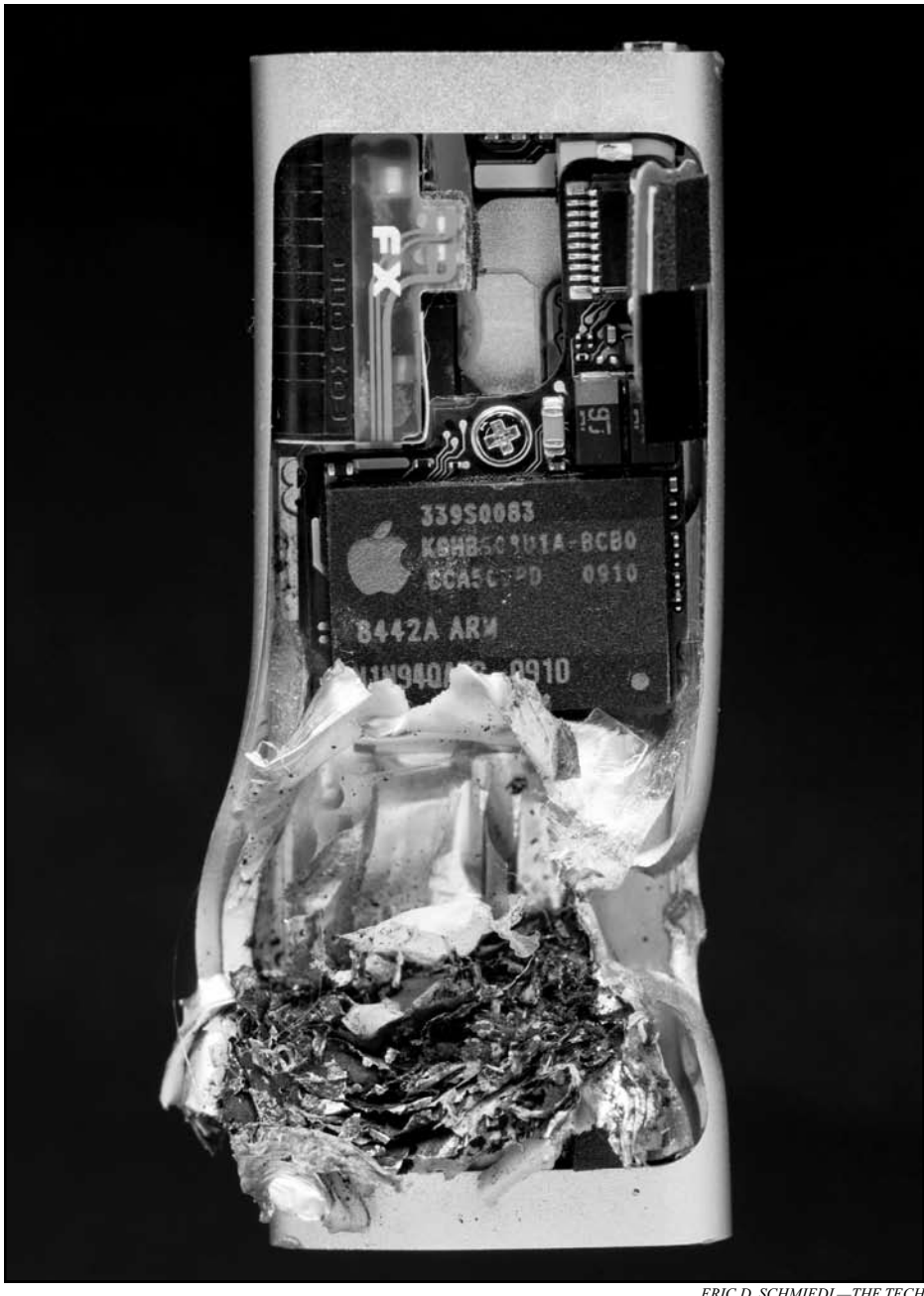
We had one scientific question in mind: Will it look cool when we shoot it?

After a five-hour setup and dozens of test shots, the answer was: Yes. The photographs you see are actually double exposures — the stationary iPod, illuminated by a camera's "ready" lights, is overlaid with the moving iPod, lit by a high-speed strobe triggered by the bullet's sonic shockwave.

The poor iPod was pulverized where it was shot, with the bullet apparently intersecting the battery. A surprising amount of circuitry survived, and from the outside you almost can't tell that the case has been ripped to shreds.

Bottom line: If you're looking for protection in a firefight, don't bother with the iPod Shuffle. (Maybe you should reach for a Zune instead.)

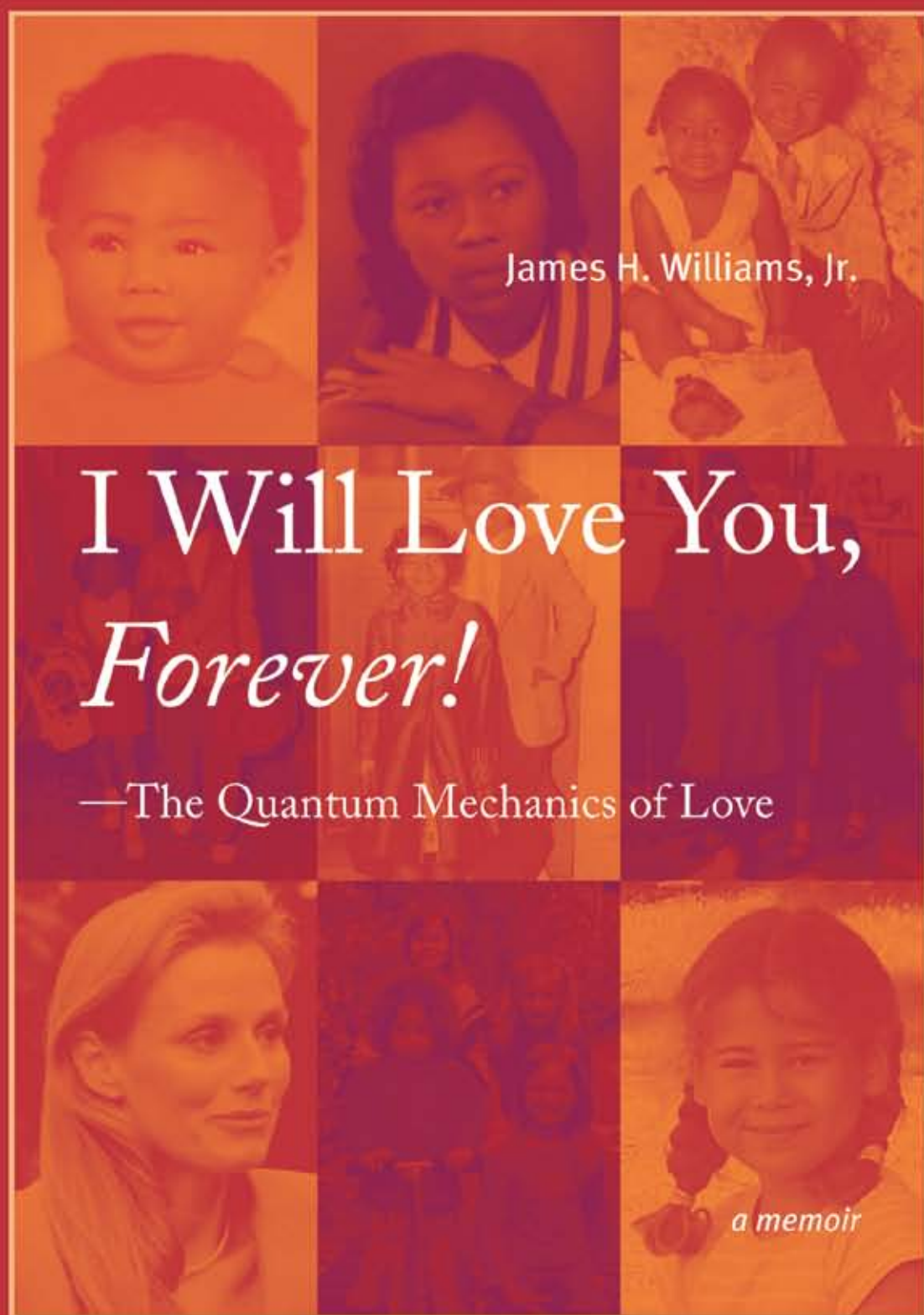
—Michael McGraw-Herdeg



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH  
**The busted iPod Shuffle is seen after its encounter with a .22 bullet. The ash seen in the lower part of the unit where the bullet struck is the Lithium battery.**

Want to shoot photos (or iPods)?  
E-mail [join@tech.mit.edu](mailto:join@tech.mit.edu)





In this memoir for the ages, **James H. Williams, Jr.** poses the breathtaking question “What happens to the love between two people when they die?” To answer his question, he explores four very different loving relationships with four very different females and plumbs the depths of modern cosmology and physics. Via *lovions* —quantum packets of love— Professor Williams concludes that mutually intense love *can* indeed be eternal.

“...a beautifully written memoir...”

“...powerful and creative...”


“...A brilliantly thought-provoking masterwork.”



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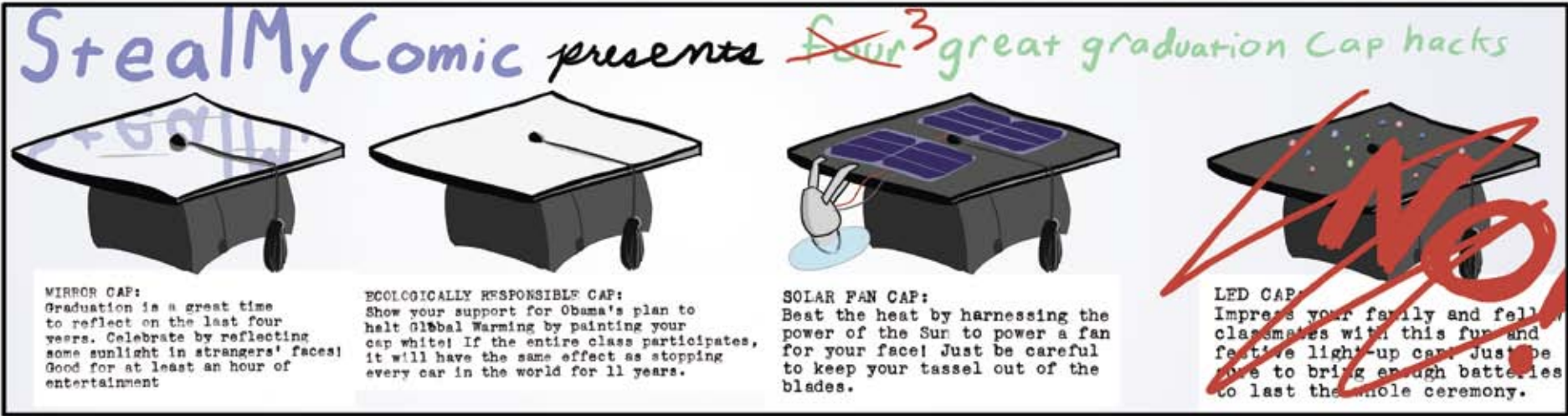
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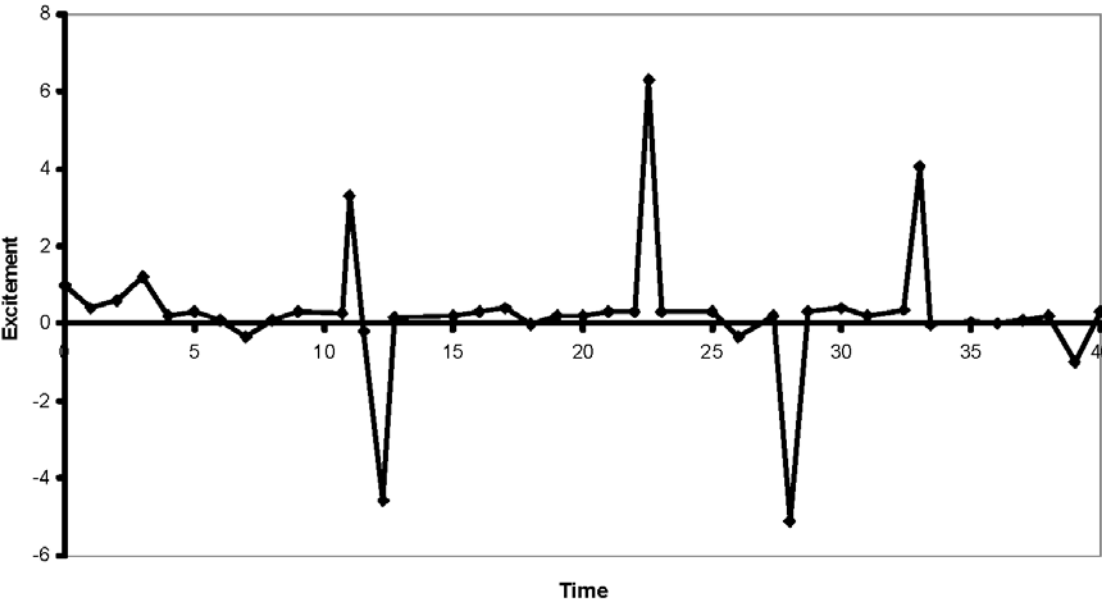
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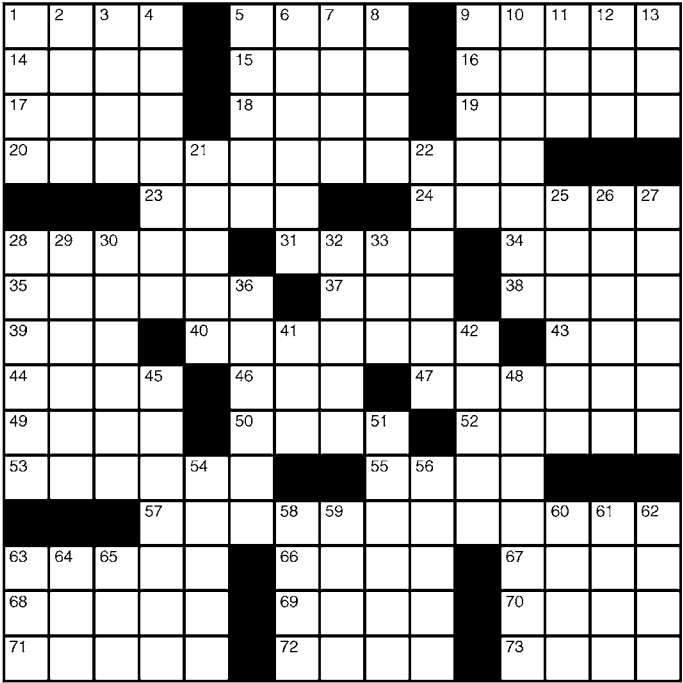
by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer



**Figure 59.** The plot shows the excitement,  $E(t)$ , as a function of non-dimensional time for an average PhD. Contrary to the commonly-held belief that Science is an exciting field, the graph shows that  $E$  is, on average, a small value. In fact, analyzed slightly differently, the data shows that  $E < 1$  about 96-98% of the time (normalization is such that  $E=1$  at  $t=0$ ). Furthermore, the integral of  $E(t)$  from  $t=0$  to  $t=PhD$ , is, on average, zero or close to zero, which suggests that there is as much excitement as there is misery during the course of Graduate School. This is not necessarily appalling, however, since it is during the episodes where  $E < 0$  when most of the learning takes place. A notable exception is observed for those who choose a career in academia, for whom the integral is overtly positive. (The author hereby thanks the audience for all these years of support and positive feedback. More Pseudoscience available at <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com>)

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14



ACROSS

- 1 Close-fitting
- 5 Pond plant
- 9 Director Cameron
- 14 Per pop
- 15 Navy commando
- 16 Pass on (to)
- 17 Race distance
- 18 Hatcher or Garr
- 19 Put forward
- 20 Start of Evan Esar quip
- 23 Biblical weed
- 24 Beginnings
- 28 Part 2 of quip
- 31 Daybreak
- 34 Field of study
- 35 Up and about
- 37 Reel companion
- 38 Regan's father
- 39 Toshiba rival
- 40 Part 3 of quip
- 43 Mach+ jet
- 44 N.Y. Met or L.A. Dodger
- 46 One of the Three Stooges
- 47 Roof support
- 49 Mountain in Thessaly
- 50 Sturluson saga
- 52 Part 4 of quip
- 53 Fisherman of a sort
- 55 Bill of fare
- 57 End of quip
- 63 Poem division
- 66 Bring down the house?
- 67 Stole or cloak
- 68 Indian, for one
- 69 Impulse conductor
- 70 Chills and fever
- 71 Trifling
- 72 Collection of fluff
- 73 Times long past

DOWN

- 1 Big rig
- 2 Childlike person
- 3 Pac-10 sch.
- 4 Segregated neighborhoods
- 5 On the move
- 6 Gave the evil eye
- 7 Long-snouted fish
- 8 Landed
- 9 Emulate Bing
- 10 Thumbs down
- 11 Switch position
- 12 Tiny
- 13 Goof
- 21 Atropos, Clotho, et al.
- 22 Over thar
- 25 1974 Mecedades hit
- 26 Playful prankster
- 27 "No Exit" dramatist
- 28 Yoplait rival
- 29 Bully's closer
- 30 Most pleasant
- 32 Moved in a curved path
- 33 Misfortune
- 36 \_\_ uno
- 41 Food fish
- 42 "Send Me a Lover" singer
- 45 Knocking sound
- 48 Like intersections
- 51 Online bookseller
- 54 Jet black
- 56 Arena happening
- 58 Russian river
- 59 Hack
- 60 Jason's ship
- 61 Asian ox
- 62 Fencer's foil
- 63 Beat walker
- 64 Dead-eye
- 65 Butterfly catcher

	5		8					4
1	7			5				
			3			8		
		6					4	2
		2				5		
4	1					9		
		9			4			
				1			7	6
8					5		3	

© Puzzles by Pappocom

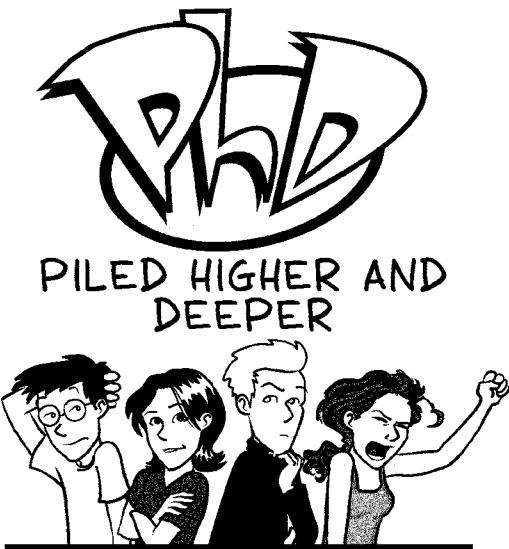
sudoku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 14.

# Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

# Dilbert® by Scott Adams

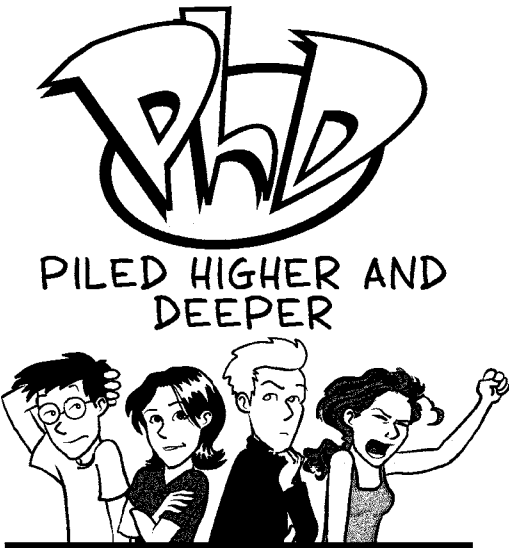


## Your Profile Picture

Perhaps the most important decision of your day.

<b>The Goofy Close-up</b>	<b>You in exotic location/participating in extreme sport</b>	<b>Your baby picture (aww!)</b>	<b>You with significant other</b>	<b>The casual snapshot</b>
<b>Personal Info:</b> "OMG, like, haha ROTFL!!!!!"	<b>Activities:</b> "Been there, done that."	<b>About me:</b> "I used to be cute... WHAT HAPPENED??"	<b>Relationship:</b> "See? I'm not the only person who likes me."	<b>Status:</b> "Like, whatever, i didn't just spend 3 hours trying to pick my profile picture."

JORGE CHAM © 2008 WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM



## YOUR LIFE AMBITION - What Happened??

	<p>1st Year    2nd Year    3rd Year    4th Year    5th Year</p>	

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# Student Life Fee Up \$22 From Last Year

By Robert McQueen  
*ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR*

The Student Life Fee goes up to \$272 next year, an increase of \$22 (8.8 percent) from the previous year’s \$250. All students pay this fee in order to support campus student services.

Of the \$22 increase, \$14 will fund student activities, and \$8 will go to the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation, said Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo.

In exchange for the DAPER fee increase, students will no longer be charged \$40 over the summer to use the gym, as they were in 2007 or 2008. The Graduate Student Council requested that the summer fee, which only some students paid, be rolled into the Student Life Fee which all students pay.

“We expect to see a large increase in the number of funding applications next year,” said Undergraduate Association President Michael A. Bennie ’10, who has experience working on the UA Finance Board.

GSC and UA presidents agreed to the \$22 fee increase at an Academic Council meeting late last year.

The \$22 increase amounts to an extra \$220,000 distributed to the Division for Student Life. The money that doesn’t go to DAPER will be divided up among student groups including the UA, GSC, DAPER, the Large Event Fund, and the Assisted Recurring Cultural and Diversity Events Fund (AR-

Year	Student Life Fee
2002–2003 – 2005–2006	\$200
2006–2007	\$200
2007–2008	\$236
2008–2009	\$250
2009–2010	\$272

CADE). The UA and GSC have their own separate funding boards which allocate money to student groups.

The GSC’s additional funds will be spent on student activities and GSC events like Graduate Orientation, Grad Gala, and the Grad Rat, said GSC President Alex Hamilton Chan G.

This is the third year in a row that the fee has increased.

**Previous fee hikes in 2006, 2007**

The 2006 increase was the first since the fee’s introduction in 2002.

UA and GSC leaders negotiated that increase directly with former Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict, said Andrew T. Lukmann ’07, who was UA President at the time and is a *Tech* senior editor.

“Dean Benedict wanted to raise the fee to fund the construction that was happening at DAPER at that time,” he said.

In 2007, the Student Life Fee was raised to account for inflation. The 2007 increase was meant to be sufficient to keep the fee constant for several years, said former UA President Martin F. Holmes ’08.

# ATO Receives CLC Fraternity License; Yearlong Saga Has Reached Closure

ATO, from Page 1

review the license in six months.

Residents have been out of the house since summer 2008, when the commission revoked ATO’s housing license after a pipe leak caused extensive water damage.

Many ATO residents were housed in MacGregor House suite lounges in the fall, as the estimated date they could return to their home slipped from Oct. 15, 2008 to January 2009 to early April. In the spring semester, ATO residents were housed in available rooms in a half-dozen different dormitories all across campus.

The CLC’s members wanted to ensure that ATO residents had a concrete plan for keeping their house in good condition, they said at a May 12 meeting where they discussed ATO’s reapplication for a housing license.

Repairs to the building were largely complete in January, when an ATO application was reviewed but not voted on by the CLC. According to the minutes, the CLC delayed considering the application because they had heard that ATO had lost its national fraternity charter; in fact, it has not.

The CLC might have been thinking of another process. The Association of Independent Living Groups (AILG) reviewed ATO in fall 2008 and again in April 2009 and both

times said that ATO was “not recommended for accreditation” in a report passed to the Dean for Student Life.

“Action based on the recommendation is purely at the discretion of the Dean’s office,” according to a description of the process at <http://web.mit.edu/covert/ailgreviews/visitors.html>.

AILG accreditation was an informal requirement for ATO to reapply for a housing license, president DeRon M. Brown ’10 told *The Tech* in May.

ATO presented their case to the CLC on May 12, at which time the commission voted to take the matter “under advisement,” until yesterday.

At the May meeting, CLC members expressed a desire for more concrete plan for keeping the house in good condition.

They expressed concern that ATO students may not be responsible enough to manage the house. They did not specifically blame the fraternity for the burst pipe, but did blame the students for the unsafe and unsanitary living conditions discovered when the house was inspected following the water damage.

ATO President DeRon M. Brown ’10 and Shane Norton ’97, president of the ATO Alumni Board, spoke on behalf of ATO at the May meeting. They said that all house members

would now work harder to maintain the house, outlining a plan to better manage the house.

After the commission chose not to vote on the license in May, ATO resident adviser Ovid C. Amadi G and Kaya Miller, assistant dean of Residential Life Programs and FSILGs, spoke on behalf of ATO. Amadi further vouched for ATO’s revamped management plan.

Last fall, the commission had expressed a wish for a “resident manager ... not a student ... who has knowledge of the building” to look after the house. But Miller vouched for Amadi, saying that he had been deemed a suitable candidate for resident adviser.

She added that since the housing license had been revoked, ATO had met the “fifteen objectives” for improvement set by the Department of Residential Life.

Miller said ATO has a full alcohol ban in effect until next February, and also in the summers of 2009 and 2010. For spring semester 2010, ATO may host events with alcohol, but with no more than 30 guests. After summer 2010, ATO would regain all party privileges. Miller said these steps would help ATO regain responsibility.

The Tech reported last fall that ATO had served alcohol to underage freshmen at a rush event, causing many in the Interfraternity Council to criticize ATO’s rush practices.

# Hobby Shop, Construction Companies Help Out With Plaque

Smoot, from Page 1

the Smoot” (and in Honor of Oliver R. Smoot ’62) debuted in a special ceremony yesterday afternoon. The plaque was embedded in a concrete base on the bridge at the southwest corner of Memorial Drive and Massachusetts Avenue.

This will be the second plaque to mark the spot; the first, installed in 1984 on the 25th anniversary of the prank “lasted only about a month” before it disappeared, wrote Smoot in an e-mail.

Several of Smoot’s ’62 fraternity brothers attended the ceremony. The plaque itself was unveiled by George M. Wyman ’62, president of Smoot’s graduating class.

Institute Chaplain Robert M. Randolph gave the blessing: “It stands for the reality that the serious work done here at MIT is enlivened by humor and whimsy. It reminds all that while victory may go to the strong, and the race may be won by the swift, in this place, in this city, on this bridge over the Charles River, all is measured by the Smoot and so it shall be now and forever more.”

In an e-mail, current Lambda Chi Alpha president Brandon H. Suarez ’09 emphasized the fraternity’s dedication to preserving the legacy of Smoot’s and reminisced about repainting the markings his freshman year: “I didn’t realize that what felt like a

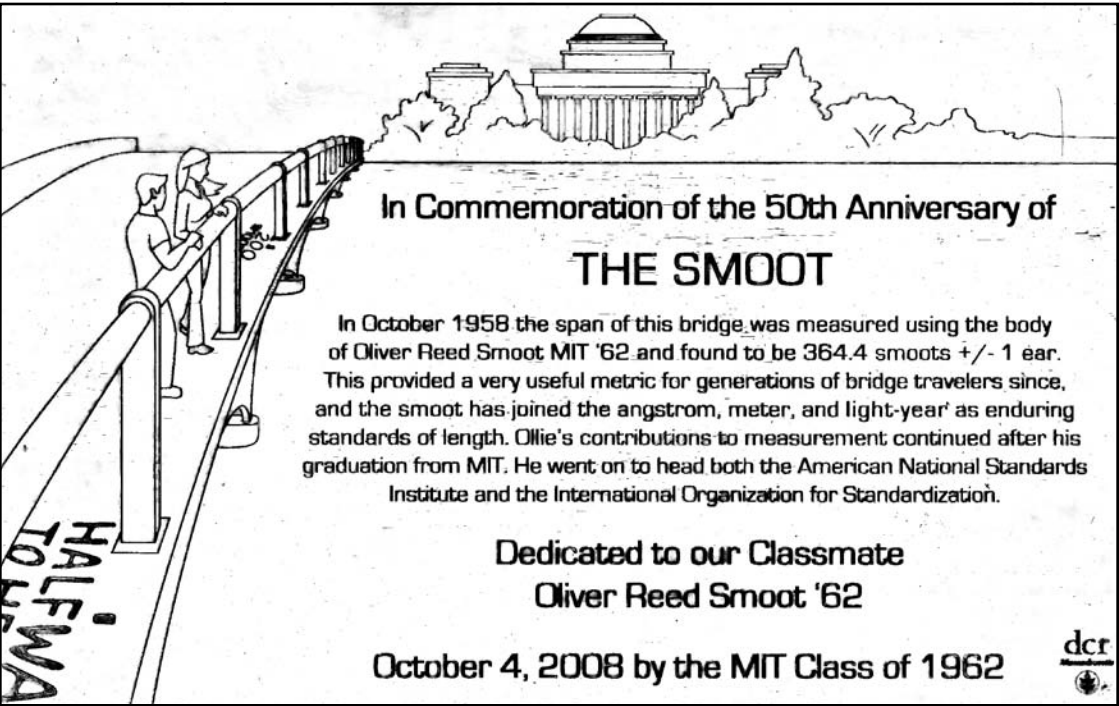
“I think that this [design] captures the dichotomous love-hate relationship many feel with the Institute during their time there. The Smoots, which constantly update the bridge-traveler with knowledge of their progress, are therefore capable of evoking strong emotions regardless of whether you’re trying to escape or return home. I tried to capture these feelings with a bridge scene where a couple is standing next to the words ‘halfway to hell’ and gazing over the water longingly towards MIT.”

— *Smoot Plaque designer*  
Ilan E. Moyer ’08

prank was actually an act of community service, perpetuating a connection between MIT and the community.”

Many of the construction companies on campus turned out to be part of that community. When organizers led by Robert V. Ferrara ’67 asked them for contributions, Bovis Lend Lease Construction (now working on the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research project) acted as general contractor on the project, S&F Concrete created the new plaque base, and the North American Site Developers helped demolished the old plaque base.

Although Smoot could not be present for the ceremony, he had been presented with an aluminum prototype of the plaque (being donated to the MIT Museum) during the 50th Smoot-aver-



The engraving of the Smoot 50th Anniversary Plaque.

sary on campus last Oct. 4. Reached by e-mail, Smoot wrote that he found the plaque to be “really neat looking, informative and well designed.”

Ilan E. Moyer ’08 machined the titanium plaque which now serves to commemorate the famous 1962 MIT fraternity prank. The project, funded primarily by the Class of ’62, took

over 80 hours, including prototyping and finishing, and Moyer had help from Hobby Shop Director Kenneth J. Stone ’72.

“The Smoots, which constantly update the bridge-traveler with knowledge of their progress, are ... capable of evoking strong emotions regardless of whether you’re trying to escape or return home,” Moyer wrote in an e-mail describing his design. “I tried to capture these feelings with a bridge scene where a couple is standing next to the words ‘halfway to hell’ and gazing over the water longingly towards MIT.”

Security was also a concern in the design, Moyer wrote, detailing the precautions he had taken: “Four ½ inch diameter titanium threaded studs are welded to the back of the half-inch-thick plaque, and are potted into the concrete post. The post is in turn reinforced with rebar. Also, the surface of the plaque is recessed into the concrete to prevent the potential for prying.”

Over the past 50 years, the Smoot marks across the Harvard Bridge has been increasingly embraced not only by the MIT community, but by the larger Boston and global cyber-communities as well. When bridge was undergoing construction in the 1980s, the Boston Police requested that the Smoot markings be preserved (for

their aid in identifying occurrences at various sections of the bridge), and this past fall, Cambridge Mayor Denise Simmons declared Oct. 4 “Smoot Day” in the community. Beyond Cambridge, Smoots are recognized by the Google online calculator, which will convert the unit of one Smoot (5 feet and 7 inches) into various other units of measure. According to Smoot, “one ear” — the magnitude of uncertainty in the bridge measurement — is actually about 0.041 Smoots.

“How could so many people, including non-MIT people find the marks interesting, amusing and pleasing?” Smoot wrote. “It is great that MIT itself has embraced the existence of the marks — that was not always true.”

After graduating from MIT with a degree in Course XIIIIB (Economics, Politics & Science), Smoot received a law degree from Georgetown University. Since then he has served as both the chairman of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the president of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Asked if the prank had influenced his later career, Smoot wrote, “I wish I could say it was a straight line, but until I was asked to go onto the ANSI Board in the late 1980’s, I had never considered getting engaged in standards policy leadership.”



The Smoot 50th Anniversary Plaque is seen sitting on the vice of the Computer Numerical Controlled milling machine which worked it last Friday in the Hobby Shop in Building W31.

# UA Finance Board, ARCADE, LEF Allocate Funds

By Jessica Lin  
STAFF REPORTER

The Undergraduate Association Finance Board released its allocations for the Summer/Fall 2009 period on May 19.

Over \$20,000, plus any leftover money from the IAP/Spring 2009 funding period, is still available for allocation following appeals in September. The remaining money from IAP/Spring 2009 is unknown because reimbursements for the spring are still being processed. (See right for table of Finboard allocations.)

This total is a higher amount of unallocated funds than in previous years, according to Finboard Chair Danielle J. Wang '11, because Finboard was stricter this year regarding adherence to its standards for funding. They looked for more details and stronger defenses of event budgets.

Finboard implemented a few new policies this funding period; notably, due to feedback from students, student groups are no longer required to meet with Board members to discuss their proposals. That means that student groups would need to reach out to Finboard to explain any details of their funding requests, and they could no longer expect to have a Finboard member who was particularly familiar with their group and its request.

The ASA released its July–September allocations for the Large Event Fund (LEF) and Assisting Recurring Cultural and Diversity Events (ARCADE) on May 25 (see tables on page 15).

According to ASA Treasurer Ke-one Hon '11 (a former *Tech* writer) the ASA expected to distribute \$15,000 to both LEF and ARCADE for this funding period, leaving over \$3,000 available in each fund. This is higher compared to last year's LEF and ARCADE allocations for the same period, \$7,000 and \$5,800 respectively.

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## Solution to Sudoku

from page 11

6	5	3	8	9	1	7	2	4
1	7	8	4	5	2	6	9	3
9	2	4	3	7	6	8	5	1
5	9	6	1	8	7	3	4	2
3	8	2	6	4	9	5	1	7
4	1	7	5	2	3	9	6	8
7	6	9	2	3	4	1	8	5
2	3	5	9	1	8	4	7	6
8	4	1	7	6	5	2	3	9

## Solution to Crossword

from page 11

S	N	U	G		A	L	G	A		C	R	O	W	E
E	A	C	H		S	E	A	L		R	E	F	E	R
M	I	L	E		T	E	R	I		O	F	F	E	R
I	F	A	T	F	I	R	S	T	Y	O				
			T	A	R	E				O	N	S	E	T
D	O	N	O	T		D	A	W	N		A	R	E	A
A	R	I	S	E	N		R	O	D		L	E	A	R
N	E	C		S	U	C	C	E	E	D		S	S	T
N	L	E	R		M	O	E		R	A	F	T	E	R
O	S	S	A		E	D	D	A		Y	O	U	R	E
N	E	T	T	E	R		M	E	N	U				
			A	B	O	U	T	A	V	E	R	A	G	E
C	A	N	T	O		R	A	Z	E		W	R	A	P
O	C	E	A	N		A	X	O	N		A	G	U	E
P	E	T	T	Y		L	I	N	T		Y	O	R	E

## Undergraduate Association Finance Board Allocations for Summer/Fall 2009

	Operations		Capital		Events		Publicity and Printing		Total			
Group	Requested	Received	Requested	Received	Requested	Received	Requested	Received	Requested	Received	% Received	Vote
African Students Association	\$428	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,901	\$0	\$338	\$0	\$4,667	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
AITI	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$300	\$250	83.33%	5-0-1
Alpha Phi Alpha	\$675	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$2,575	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
American Medical Students' Association	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,540	\$600	\$80	\$60	\$1,920	\$660	34.38%	5-0-1
American Red Cross Team and Network	\$845	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$850	\$500	\$531	\$200	\$2,226	\$1,000	44.92%	5-0-1
Anime Club	\$250	\$0	\$720	\$0	\$500	\$350	\$120	\$70	\$1,590	\$420	26.42%	6-0-0
Asian American Association	\$650	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$3,700	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
Asian Baptist Student Koinonia	\$524	\$200	\$427	\$100	\$450	\$300	\$408	\$180	\$1,809	\$780	43.12%	5-0-1
Asian Christian Fellowship	\$1,200	\$250	\$200	\$200	\$850	\$600	\$150	\$150	\$2,400	\$1,200	50.00%	5-0-1
Assassins Guild	\$340	\$340	\$415	\$415	\$710	\$710	\$210	\$210	\$1,675	\$1,675	100.00%	5-0-1
Association of International Relations and Model United Nations	\$855	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$326	\$0	\$2,181	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
Assoc Puerto Rican Students	\$175	\$100	\$153	\$70	\$3,998	\$1,200	\$170	\$150	\$4,496	\$1,520	33.81%	5-0-1
Association of Taiwanese Students	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,385	\$1,000	\$85	\$50	\$2,470	\$1,050	42.51%	6-0-0
Baptist Student Fellowship	\$0	\$0	\$160	\$160	\$950	\$200	\$50	\$50	\$1,160	\$410	35.34%	6-0-0
Bhakti Yoga	\$2,520	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$3,770	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
Bhangra Club	\$4,120	\$800	\$850	\$310	\$100	\$100	\$25	\$25	\$5,095	\$1,235	24.24%	6-0-0
BE-BMS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,550	\$0	\$550	\$0	\$2,100	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
Black Women's Alliance	\$3,600	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$3,850	\$1,600	\$100	\$100	\$7,550	\$2,000	26.49%	6-0-0
Brain and Cognitive Science Society	\$350	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$600	\$600	\$45	\$5	\$995	\$705	70.85%	6-0-0
Brain Trust	\$55	\$55	\$0	\$0	\$1,203	\$610	\$108	\$58	\$1,366	\$723	52.93%	6-0-0
Campus Crusade for Christ	\$0	\$0	\$150	\$0	\$1,850	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Caribbean Club	\$12	\$12	\$40	\$0	\$1,620	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,672	\$1,012	60.53%	7-0-0
Casino Rueda	\$400	\$300	\$2,170	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$100	\$75	\$3,170	\$875	27.60%	7-0-0
Caving Club	\$500	\$500	\$609	\$609	\$185	\$185	\$30	\$30	\$1,324	\$1,324	100.00%	7-0-0
Chamak	\$240	\$100	\$1,360	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$115	\$35	\$1,715	\$385	22.45%	7-0-0
China Care	\$600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$150	\$0	\$1,750	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Chinese Ensemble	\$340	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$90	\$50	\$730	\$350	47.95%	7-0-0
Chinese Students Club	\$283	\$250	\$305	\$200	\$3,160	\$1,500	\$350	\$200	\$4,098	\$2,150	52.46%	6-0-0
Chorallaries	\$2,200	\$0	\$350	\$350	\$1,600	\$600	\$500	\$150	\$4,650	\$1,100	23.66%	6-0-1
Concert Band	\$200	\$200	\$800	\$500	\$750	\$500	\$220	\$125	\$1,970	\$1,325	67.26%	7-0-0
Concert Choir Students Association	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$300	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Cross Products	\$300	\$0	\$145	\$0	\$120	\$0	\$180	\$0	\$745	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Curling Club	\$245	\$245	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$20	\$20	\$565	\$565	100.00%	7-0-0
Dance Troupe	\$400	\$0	\$1,100	\$250	\$2,660	\$1,500	\$670	\$150	\$4,830	\$1,900	39.34%	7-0-0
Debate Team	\$3,150	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,150	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
MIT Dramashop	\$180	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$480	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
MIT-EMS	\$535	\$100	\$900	\$0	\$650	\$300	\$605	\$150	\$2,690	\$550	20.45%	7-0-0
Engineers Without Borders	\$855	\$0	\$700	\$0	\$1,300	\$0	\$425	\$0	\$3,280	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Equestrian Club	\$3,325	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,140	\$350	\$80	\$50	\$5,545	\$400	7.21%	6-0-1
Filipino Students Assoc	\$50	\$50	\$40	\$40	\$2,510	\$2,000	\$70	\$70	\$2,670	\$2,160	80.90%	7-0-0
Film Cooperative	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$620	\$120	\$100	\$100	\$1,720	\$220	12.79%	7-0-0
Flying Club	\$90	\$0	\$163	\$0	\$838	\$0	\$113	\$0	\$1,204	\$0	0.00%	6-0-1
Gilbert and Sullivan Players	\$0	\$0	\$8,650	\$150	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$8,900	\$400	4.49%	7-0-0
Gospel Choir	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,850	\$0	\$170	\$0	\$2,820	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,340	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$2,390	\$1,050	43.93%	7-0-0
Hapa	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$120	\$0	\$1,620	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Hawaii Club	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$550	\$350	\$50	\$50	\$850	\$650	76.47%	7-0-0
Hillel	\$650	\$650	\$375	\$375	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$375	\$375	\$4,400	\$3,400	77.27%	7-0-0
Hindu Students Council	\$80	\$80	\$150	\$150	\$1,310	\$1,310	\$330	\$150	\$1,870	\$1,690	90.37%	7-0-0
Hong Kong Student Society	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,150	\$800	\$100	\$50	\$1,250	\$850	68.00%	7-0-0
How to Get Around MIT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Imobillare	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,100	\$1,100	100.00%	7-0-0
International Development	\$288	\$288	\$50	\$0	\$450	\$150	\$710	\$230	\$1,498	\$668	44.59%	7-0-0
Korean Students Association	\$160	\$100	\$70	\$70	\$1,550	\$1,200	\$250	\$150	\$2,030	\$1,520	74.88%	6-0-1
La Union Chicana Por Aztlan (LUCHA)	\$950	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$1,070	\$700	\$130	\$50	\$2,190	\$750	34.25%	6-0-1
Laboratory for Chocolate Science	\$0	\$0	\$180	\$180	\$1,400	\$500	\$150	\$100	\$1,730	\$780	45.09%	6-0-1
Latter-day Saint Student Association	\$220	\$110	\$0	\$0	\$495	\$495	\$100	\$100	\$815	\$705	86.50%	7-0-0
Lecture Series Committee	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	100.00%	7-0-0
Lion Dance	\$30	\$30	\$600	\$600	\$300	\$150	\$30	\$30	\$960	\$810	84.38%	7-0-0
Logarhythms	\$0	\$0	\$2,300	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$2,550	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Marching Band	\$115	\$100	\$1,020	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$75	\$75	\$1,210	\$175	14.46%	7-0-0
mitBEEF	\$450	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$1,300	\$1,000	\$200	\$150	\$1,950	\$1,400	71.79%	7-0-0
Mocha Moves	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$552	\$552	\$50	\$50	\$602	\$602	100.00%	7-0-0
Movements in Time	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30	\$30	\$430	\$430	100.00%	7-0-0
Mujeres Latinas	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,490	\$1,200	\$20	\$20	\$1,510	\$1,220	80.79%	7-0-0
Muses	\$600	\$300	\$6,000	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$100	\$100	\$7,100	\$800	11.27%	6-0-1
Musical Theater Guild	\$2,974	\$1,500	\$8,000	\$0	\$9,040	\$0	\$900	\$100	\$20,914	\$1,600	7.65%	6-0-1
National Society of Black Engineers	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$1,510	\$1,000	\$20	\$20	\$1,730	\$1,220	70.52%	6-0-0
Natya	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	100.00%	7-0-0
Network for Sloan Undergraduate Women	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$700	\$600	\$180	\$130	\$880	\$730	82.95%	4-0-1
Oori	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$100	\$100	\$20	\$20	\$520	\$520	100.00%	7-0-0
PaksMIT	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$1,935	\$600	\$150	\$150	\$2,135	\$800	37.47%	7-0-0
Pershing Rifles C-12 (ABN)	\$200	\$200	\$1,129	\$600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,329	\$800	60.20%	7-0-0
Plush Daddy Fly	\$2,527	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$3,227	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
Pro-Life	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$300	\$50	16.67%	6-0-0
Protestant Student Community	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$100	\$150	\$50	\$400	\$150	37.50%	6-0-0
Quiz Bowl	\$1,524	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,524	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
QWiLLTS	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,300	\$450	\$0	\$50	\$1,375	\$500	36.36%	6-0-0
Resonance	\$1,530	\$530	\$200	\$60	\$1,200	\$700	\$420	\$200	\$3,350	\$1,490	44.48%	7-0-0
Ridonkulous	\$720	\$500	\$100	\$75	\$380	\$180	\$50	\$50	\$1,250	\$805	64.40%	6-0-0
Science Fiction Society	\$0	\$0	\$5,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,200	\$0	0.00%	7-0-0
SEALNet@MIT	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$550	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$650	\$250	38.46%	7-0-0
Service	\$350	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$1,020	\$500	\$80	\$40	\$1,500	\$740	49.33%	7-0-0
Shakespeare Ensemble	\$740	\$740	\$8,920	\$400	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$9,810	\$1,290	13.15%	7-0-0
South Asian American Students	\$25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,100	\$110	\$60	\$1,735	\$1,160	66.86%	7-0-0
Sloan Undergraduate Management Association	\$650	\$0	\$140	\$40	\$4,830	\$0	\$850	\$125	\$6,470	\$165	2.55%	5-0-2
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$700	\$100	\$100	\$1,000	\$800	80.00%	7-0-0
Strategic Games Society	\$150	\$120	\$670	\$470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$820	\$590	71.95%	7-0-0
Student Juggling Club	\$0	\$0	\$205	\$205	\$75	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$280	\$280	100.00%	7-0-0
Student for the Exploration and Development of Space	\$210	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$1,000	\$600	\$50	\$50	\$1,360	\$750	55.15%	7-0-0
Techiya	\$140	\$140	\$80	\$80	\$700	\$450	\$100	\$50	\$1,020	\$720	70.59%	7-0-0
Toons	\$1,300	\$300	\$1,107	\$0	\$1,300	\$1,000	\$350	\$100	\$4,057	\$1,400	34.51%	7-0-0
Traders at MIT	\$100	\$100	\$220	\$0	\$770	\$770	\$500	\$300	\$1,590	\$1,170	73.58%	5-0-1
Traditional Medicine Society	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,566	\$500	\$238	\$100	\$2,864	\$600	20.95%	5-0-1
Undergraduate Biochemistry Association	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$725	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$765	\$0	0.00%	6-0-0
Undergraduate Research Journal	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$250	\$150	\$150	\$3,400	\$1,400	41.18%	6-0-0
United Christian Fellowship	\$20	\$20	\$0	\$0	\$350	\$250	\$50	\$50	\$420	\$320	76.19%	6-0-0
Universities Allied for Essential Medicines	\$0	\$0	\$60	\$60	\$400	\$300	\$60	\$60	\$520	\$420	80.77%	6-0-0
Victory Campus Ministries	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$200	\$90	\$90	\$590	\$290	49.15%	6-0-0
Vietnamese Students Association	\$40	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$925	\$640	\$40	\$40	\$1,055	\$730	69.19%	6-0-0
VooDoo Magazine	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	100.00%	5-0-1
Totals	\$56,710	\$15,010	\$59,123	\$7,619	\$107,433	\$40,997</						



ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural and Diversity Events) Allocations for July–Sept. 2009

Event Name	Primary Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Received	% Funded	Estimated Total Attendance	Estimated MIT Student Attendance	Amount Received Per MIT Student
Astanga Yoga, ‘Bhagavad Gita’ Lecture Series	Bhakti-Yoga	\$2,350	—	0.0%	450	350	—
Chinese Valentine’s Day (QiXi) Party	CSSA	\$3,873	\$2,800	72.3%	250	220	\$12.73
Midsummer (Greater Heat) Gathering	CSSA	\$3,979	—	0.0%	300	250	—
Arab Cultural Night	Edgerton Housing Association	\$300	\$300	100.0%	50	50	\$6.00
Orientation BBQ	Hellenic Students’ Association	\$820	\$820	100.0%	90	85	\$9.65
2009 KGSA Welcoming party	KGSA (Korean Graduate Students Association)	\$600	\$600	100.0%	300	280	\$2.14
Bharatanatyam for Bhopal	MIT Students for Bhopal	\$1,500	—	0.0%	150	75	—
MSA Fall Dinner	Muslim Students’ Association	\$2,800	\$2,800	100.0%	350	200	\$14.00
63rd Indian Independence Day	Sangam	\$3,027	\$2,567	848	200	190	\$13.51
Multicultural BBQ	Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)	\$1,000	\$1,000	100.0%	500	500	\$2.00
Tour of Bakeries Around the World	Westgate Community Associatin	\$881	\$881	100.0%	150	150	\$5.87
Totals		\$21,130	\$11,768	55.7%			

SOURCE: KEONE D. HON ’11, TREASURER, ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Large Event Fund (LEF) Allocations for July–Sept. 2009

Event Name	Primary Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Received	% Funded	Estimated Total Attendance	Estimated MIT Student Attendance	Amount Received Per MIT Student
Ashdown Orientation Party: Dance Fusion VIII	Ashdown House	\$3,695	\$2,600	70.4%	600	550	\$4.73
East Campus REX	East Campus	\$4,000	\$1,000	25.0%	800	790	\$1.27
Eastgate Fall Barbecue and Community Picnic	Eastgate Community Association	\$2,000	\$2,000	100.0%	300	270	\$7.41
The Beaver Dash	MIT Habitat for Humanity club	\$6,470	\$2,170	33.5%	350	200	\$10.85
Fall Cultural Bash	MIT South Asian American Students	\$2,850	—	0.0%	500	500	—
Women’s Professional Day	Panhellenic Association	\$3,250	—	0.0%	150	150	—
Graduate Summer Party	Sidney-Pacific Graduate Community	\$3,240	\$2,080	64.2%	250	250	\$8.32
GSC/TechLink Orientation Welcome Banquet	TechLink	\$1,500	\$1,500	100.0%	950	950	\$1.58
Totals		\$27,005	\$11,350	42.0%			

SOURCE: KEONE D. HON ’11, TREASURER, ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES



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# Graduate Student Falls to Death From E19

Nguyen, from Page 1

oratory of Professor Drazen Prelec. He has TA'd several classes including 15.301, the popular Managerial Psychology Laboratory, and as well as 15.846, Branding, this past term.

Marketing PhD students typically complete the program in around six years.

Tuesday morning, the MIT police received a call around 11:05 a.m. from MIT Facilities about a medical emergency in the E19 parking lot, which is located at the corner of Main St. and Ames St.

An ambulance arrived and medical personnel pronounced Nguyen dead at 11:09 a.m.

The medical examiner has ruled that Nguyen's death was not a homicide.

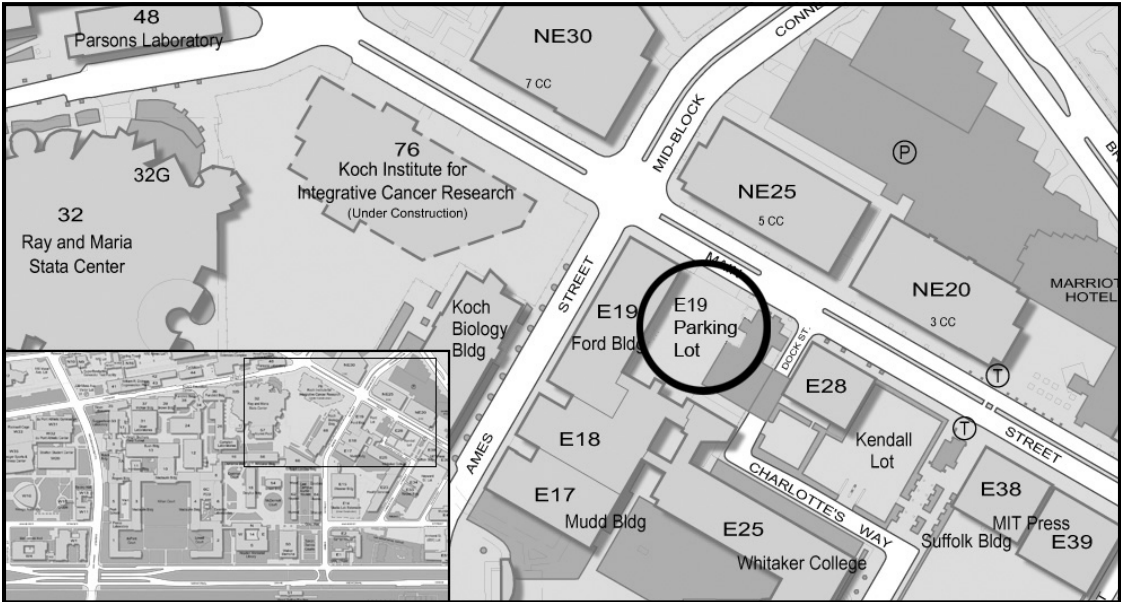
MIT officials released Nguyen's name late Tuesday, after contacting his immediate family.

*Nick Semenkovich and Shreyes Seshasai contributed reporting.*



PERRY HUNG—THE TECH

**Emergency personnel, including MIT Police Captain Albert F. Pierce Jr. (center, facing right), investigate the death of Han D. Nguyen G, who was found in the parking lot on the east side of Building E19 on Tuesday, June 2. A tarp wall was constructed to shield the location where Nguyen fell (behind tarp to left).**



CAMPUS\_BASEMAP\_R2009—MIT FACILITIES

**This map shows the location of the parking lot east of MIT Building E19 where Han D. Nguyen G was found. Nguyen fell from the roof late-morning Tuesday. E19 is at the corner of Main St. and Ames St.**

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# Six Masked Westgate Intruders Flee From Police, Still Unkown

By Annelies Abeel

Six masked men fled the Westgate Lowrise dormitory and escaped the MIT Police after a brief car chase on Monday, May 11.

No one has been charged or arrested, but there are suspects, said Sergeant Craig A. Martin of the MIT Police.

According to an MIT Police crime bulletin, a witness spotted the suspects and called the police around 9:45 p.m. Most of them had covered their faces with bandannas, but one of the men had not pulled up his bandanna. He was described by the witness as a male, heavyset Asian with short-cropped hair.

The MIT Police, who are stationed right next to Westgate, responded to the report. The masked men fled in a white Mitsubishi, followed by an MIT officer, the bul-

letin said.

The MIT Police chased the suspects' vehicle down Memorial Drive and "several other streets" until it hit a parked car; the suspects then fled on foot. In spite of an extensive area search, where the MIT Police was assisted by both the State Police and the Boston Police, none of the suspects were found.

Suspects were able to enter the dormitory because one of the residents was expecting guests and opened the door without asking questions, the bulletin said.

The MIT Police suggest verifying the identity of guests before buzzing them in and making use of the peep holes before opening doors.

Martin declined to comment on details of the ongoing investigation.

# Proposals Voted Down Include Hot Food in MacGregor, 'Opt-out' Fee

Dining, from Page 1

edu/V129/N26/dining/.

As of Thursday night, this report is only publicly available on *The Tech's* website. The committee was supposed to release the report on Monday, May 11, but it has not responded to multiple e-mails asking about the status of the report.

Donna Denoncourt, associate dean for residential life and chair of the committee, wrote in an e-mail to *The Tech* on Friday, May 29 that Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo "wanted to review the material with the committee members before making the document public to ensure his full understanding of the recommendations prior to public reaction."

According to Denoncourt, Colombo plans to review the reports with available members of the two committees during the week of June 8.

A copy of the report, marked "final" and dated May 11, was provided to *The Tech* by a source close to the committee. The report has already been circulated among MIT administrators, including Colombo.

Undergraduate Association President Michael A. Bennie '10 said he thinks "this report is a fair representation of two years of discussion on the various issues surrounding dining at MIT."

**What's changed?**

The report retained most of the recommendations from the second draft released on May 5. Its recommendations still include offering all-you-can-eat meals in at least one central location on campus and improving breakfast and late-night dining options, for example.

But the final report also reveals some dissent within the committee. Four proposals were "not recommended," even though a majority of the committee supported three of them, because a 75 percent vote in favor was needed to make any proposal a "recommendation."

Bennie said he is "happy with the dining framework that the committee approved. My major concern is the process by which the details that were voted down by the members of Blue Ribbon will be resolved."

"I think the report's credibility is only enhanced by the fact that some of its features were voted down. It shows that the committee was able to have a real discussion of the issues, brainstorm solutions to the dining problem, and pick the best ideas presented," Bennie said.

**Yes on declining-balance, no on \$600 minimum**

The committee recommended that

students pay into a declining-balance system, where students pay up front in exchange for a certain number of meals per semester. But a proposed minimum amount of \$600 semester was not recommended, with 60 percent (9 of 15 voters) in favor.

**Narrow no on "opt-out" fee**

Students whose dormitory had a dining hall, but who didn't want to buy a meal plan there, would have still paid a \$500 opt-out fee to help subsidize the costs of the system, in another proposal that was not recommended. The fee would have helped subsidize the costs of a dining hall system which was projected to spend more than \$500 per dining-hall-dorm resident per semester.

But the idea of an opt-out fee was rejected by the narrowest of margins, with 11 people voting in favor and 4 against. That was a 73 percent vote, not enough to garner the proposal "recommended" status.

The committee voted separately on the specific opt-out value of \$500, which was also rejected with 7 votes in favor and 8 against.

**No on hot food in MacGregor**


While the report contains many detailed recommendations about how dining at MIT can be improved, one suggestion proved controversial: putting a dining hall in MacGregor. The committee did not recommend the idea of "upgrading" the late-night MacGregor Convenience store into "an operation that offers hot food, late night, and delivery services." It was not recommended despite a two-thirds vote (10 of 15 were in favor of converting MacGregor Convenience).

Previous attempts at putting a dining hall in MacGregor have recently ended poorly: a pilot program providing dinner weekly was popular in 2006-7, but it lost steam (and, residents said, quality) in its second year. That program was discontinued in February 2009.

The 75 percent approval requirement was a concession to students who said they didn't feel sufficiently included after a draft of a report by outside consultants to the dining committee was leaked early this spring. Of the 18 current committee members listed in the final report, 10 are students; the report does not say which of those members voted on its recommendations.

The UA Dining Proposal Committee, an all-student committee created by the UA to prepare a separate recommendation, released its final report on May 4.

That report recommended closing McCormick Hall's dining hall in the short term, citing its large deficit. In



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Hackers placed a giant statue of the Greek goddess Athena in MIT's Killian Court on May 18, the first day of final exams. The Athena statue stood atop a large pedestal and carried a shield inscribed with MIT's "Mens et Manus" logo. Athena is the goddess of knowledge, wisdom, heroic endeavor, and strategic warfare, as well as the name of MIT's campus-wide computing system.

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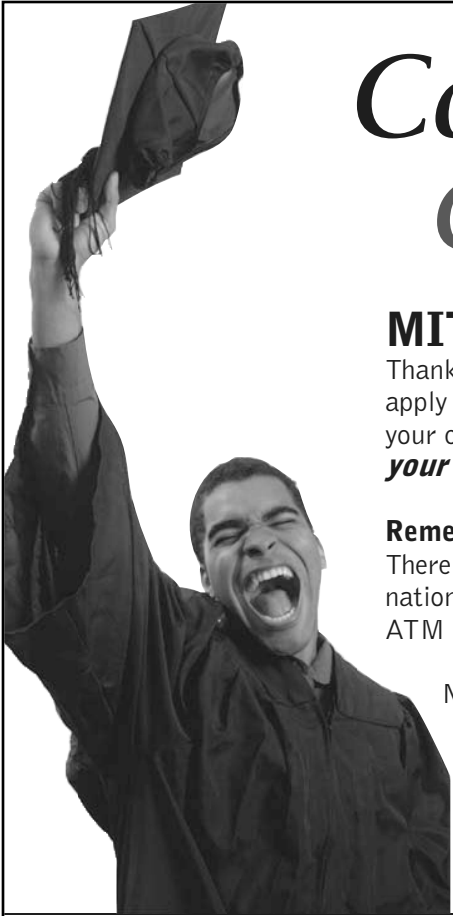
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Good luck on all your future endeavors!



### No Nighttime Service at Medical

MIT Medical's nighttime urgent care service will be closed over the summer, along with Medical's inpatient unit, due to low utilization and costs.

According to William M. Kettyle, head of MIT Medical, "many nights no one shows up" at urgent care, especially over the summer.

Twenty staff will be furloughed as a result of the closing, which Kettyle said was "not an easy decision" to make. Emergency services will remain available by calling (617) 253-1311, and patients needing immediate attention will be transported to Mount Auburn Hospital or Children's Hospital.

—John A. Hawkinson  
and Nick Semenkovich

### Lincoln Lab CTO Leaves for DOD

President Barack Obama has nominated Zachary J. Lemnios, Chief Technology Officer of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory since 2005, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering for the federal government. If Lemnios is approved for this position by the Senate, he will become the top military science and technology official in the country.

Prior to his current position, Lemnios worked extensively on microsystems research at both the Lincoln Lab and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. He holds four patents on gallium-arsenide microchip technology.

—Natasha Plotkin

### Bye, Bye, New Tech Barber

The New Tech Barber, located in the basement of the Stratton Student Center, closes its doors for good this month.

Owner George H. Fichera has agreed to vacate the premises by June 15, after weak business led to non-payment of rent.

MIT does not have specific plans for that retail space, said Paul Paravano, of the office of government and community relations.

Fichera, who is also a custodian for the Department of Facilities, had run the New Tech Barber since 1988.

New Tech's competitor, Technicuts, remains open in the student center basement.

—Robert McQueen

### MIT's AAA Bond Rating Intact

As their endowments falter, some major universities' bonds are also weakening.

Moody's Investment Services has downgraded the credit ratings of 20 schools, including Dartmouth College and Rockefeller University, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.

MIT currently receives the highest possible rating, AAA, on all its bonds. Moody's reported a stable outlook on this rating when it last reported on MIT in December 2008.

An institution may receive a lower rating on the credit they issue when credit-rating services come to view that credit as a riskier investment. For universities, which often use credit to finance construction projects and other large one-time capital expenses, a lowered rating is often tied to weak endowment performance. The lower rating forces the school to pay more interest to investors, making it more expensive to finance projects.

—Natasha Plotkin

### Eating Disorder Treatment Treatment of Adults Suffering from Anorexia and Bulimia Nervosa



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# 2009 Class Project Will Support Web Videos for Chemistry's 5.111

Commencement, from Page 1

Doors open at 7:30 a.m. for guests and family members. Following the ceremony, a reception will be held on Kresge Oval. The ceremony can also be viewed online at <http://web.mit.edu/commencement/2009/webcast.html>.

As of yesterday, 921 undergraduate students and 1,337 graduate students were scheduled to attend the ceremony, according to Assistant Registrar Daniel T. Engelhardt. A total of 1,065 undergraduate degrees and 1,435 graduate degrees will be given out.

Ammar T. Ammar '09 and Andre Y. Wibisono '09 are two graduating seniors who are continuing in Masters of Engineering programs at MIT.

Wibisono, who will receive a double degree in Mathematics and Computer Science and Engineering, said that he feels he is "not yet finished" and adds that the MEng program is great for "students who love MIT too much and do not want to leave." He adds that an MEng provides a taste of graduate education without the long commitment of a PhD program.

Ammar, graduating with a bachelor's in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, recalls his experiences at MIT. "I am glad that I didn't get fried by EMF radiations after spending all this time in front a computer screen," he adds laughingly.

Yesterday, doctoral candidates gathered at Rockwell Cage for their hooding ceremony. President Hockfield told the gathered students that out of half a million students who graduate with bachelor's degrees, only 35,000 continue on to earn a PhD, emphasizing the importance and stalwart nature of the graduate students.

**Seniors donate to OpenCourseWare**

MIT encourages graduating seniors to donate money, in what the Institute calls a Senior Gift campaign. Last year, 64.4 percent of the Class of 2008 donated to the Senior Gift campaign, a record-high.

As of yesterday afternoon, 64.1 percent of graduating seniors (636 individuals) had donated \$11,677, according to Senior Gift Adviser Rosheen B. Kavanagh of the MIT Alumni Association. Organizers are

targeting a goal of 65 percent, half a percentage point higher than last year's record. The campaign continued to count donations made yesterday evening.

All MIT donors can specify a particular group or fund to receive their gift, including student groups or the general scholarship fund. They could also support this year's chosen Senior Gift, an MIT OpenCourseWare Fund focusing on providing video content and course materials for MIT Class 5.111 (Principles of Chemical Science). 5.111 is one of the most popular courses on OCW, and new material is scheduled to be online this month.

As of yesterday afternoon, 242 students had donated approximately \$4,000 to the OCW fund.

Following tradition, MIT alumus Martin Tang SM '72 has sponsored a challenge for the Senior Gift. Tang will give \$20,000 at the current level of participation, but will raise his contribution to \$25,000 if the 65 percent goal is met.

Class President Vivian Tang will present the campaign total to Hockfield at Commencement.

Angeline Wang contributed to the reporting for this story.

# Chu: Government Regulations Can Motivate Technological Advances

Chu, from Page 1

twentieth century have suggested. The invention of artificial fertilizers, for instance, drastically increased world-wide grain production despite the predictions of Stanford biologist Paul Ehrlich, who asserted that hundreds of millions would die from hunger regardless of any crash programs.

Chu went on to assert that greenhouse gas emissions would reduce most dramatically due to energy efficiency and conservation. This would be motivated by government regulations, which have proved essential in technological advances. Refrigerator efficiency, for one, evolved largely due to regulations. "They're cheaper, they use less energy and they got bigger," he said. The same advancement driven by regulations could apply to buildings, which currently consume 40 percent of the total energy used in the United States.

The talk concluded with a call for more energy research, pursued

with a fervor similar to that of the famed Bell Laboratories, which developed era-defining technologies such as the transistor, information theory, and the C programming language. Research would be led by the best practicing scientists and focus on results, driven by the cooperation among academia, the government, and industry.

During the Q&A session after the talk, a graduate student asked how the government would be prepared to absorb monetary loss from failed pursuits. Chu replied that President Barack Obama has proposed to invest several percentage points of the gross domestic product on science research. Science and technology will be a cornerstone, if not the cornerstone for how America is going to prosper in this century, Chu said.

Associate Provost Philip S. Khoury, also chair of the committee that selected the speaker, said Chu's speech could be interpreted as an appeal to academia to increase its participation in eliminating fossil fuel

dependency. Because much of the famed laboratories have dismantled, Chu may have suggested that universities, now considered the hotbeds for innovation, need to pick up the responsibility.

Chu went into office as the first Nobel laureate to do so, having shared the 1997 physics prize for his work on cooling and trapping atoms with laser light. He is also the first practicing scientist to be appointed as head of the Energy Department.

The talk, held on May 12, was part of the Institute's most prestigious lectureship, established in memory of Karl Taylor Compton, MIT president from 1930 to 1948. Speakers come from a variety of disciplines, ranging from the arts to international affairs, and have included Niels Bohr, Linus Pauling, and Edward M. Kennedy. For lecture archives, visit <http://compton.mit.edu/>.

Chu delivered a Commencement address at Harvard University yesterday afternoon.

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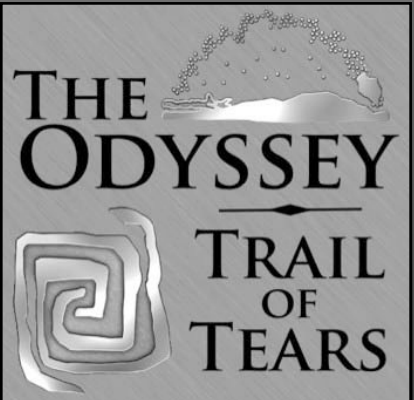


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SPORTS

Men’s Heavyweight Eight Beat Yale, G’town for 12th

By Lucas W. Goodman  
TEAM MEMBER

On Sunday, May 10, both squads of the men’s crew team competed in the Eastern Sprints Regatta on windy Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester. Present were all 18 major East Coast rowing powers, including the eight Ivy League schools, as well as major state schools. MIT’s heavyweight varsity eight entered the regatta set on writing a new chapter for MIT Crew, having

received last place in every Sprints regatta in recent memory. In the first heat, the eight had their eyes on the crews of Yale University, Dartmouth College, and Georgetown University. The Engineers had to beat at least two of these teams in order to qualify for the second-level final, also known as the Petite Final. Once the race started, MIT jumped out ahead of these three crews and steadily moved away from Yale and Georgetown. Dartmouth, whom MIT had defeated two weeks before, grabbed a half-length advantage over

the Engineers in the third 500; they would hold on to third place despite a late charge from the Tech eight. Nevertheless, MIT got the job done and advanced to the Petite Final with a fourth place finish in the heat. In the afternoon’s Petite Final, MIT rowed in fourth place through the first half of the 2,000-meter race. However, they were unable to respond to strong moves by Dartmouth and a solid sprint by the U.S. Naval Academy; MIT finished last in sixth place, although just one second out of fourth, to earn 12th place overall.

The heavyweight freshmen eight also earned a spot in their Petite Final with a fourth place finish in the heat. They had a slow start to their race, trailing the pack by almost a full length through the midpoint of the course. The squad then kicked it into gear and finished in the middle of their Petite Final, earning a third place finish, 1.5 seconds out of first, for ninth overall. The performance of the heavyweight squad will likely earn them an invite to the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Regatta, which is the national men’s rowing championship.

The lightweight varsity eight competed in a field of 10 strong crews. They struggled a little bit in their heat but advanced to the Petite Final. The four crews in the Petites slugged it out over the entire 2,000-meter course. Despite a competitive effort, MIT finished in last place. The lightweight freshmen eight had a similar experience; the Engineers gave a solid fight, but would come out on the short end of a close finish. MIT finished last in this race as well, only 0.7 seconds behind the next crew.



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